Hafa Adai! Salpan Iribune Volume XXVII, Issue No. 211

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY OCTOBER 24, 2017

tim managed to

run to her sister-in-

law's house. She

was crying, shak-

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Man allegedly poured gas on GF

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

23-year-old man frightened his girlfriend by allegedly pouring gasoline on her and setting fire to a house. He now faces six charges, including first-degree murder and arson.

» Man also allegedly choked and gagged her

ing, and smelled of gasoline when a responding police officer met her. An eyewitness described her shirt as soaked with gasoline.

The suspect, John Piteg See MAN on Page 4

TD 27W may pass near Guam today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Tropical Depression 27W moved closer to the Marianas yesterday and may pass southwest of Guam today, Tuesday, causing possible the Northern Marianas.

As of 5pm yesterday, a tropical storm watch remained in effect for Guam, Rota, and surrounding coastal waters.

As of 2:15pm yesterday, acting governor Victor B. Hocog "maintained" Tropi-

cal Storm Condition 3 for Rota because of the anticipated threat.

Packing maximum sustained winds of 35 miles per hour, Tropical Depression 27W is not expected to significantly intensify Monday

See TD 27W on Page 4

minor damage in Guam and

CNMI soccer is building a home

By BEA CABRERA

bea_cabrera@saipantirbune.com

lands Football Association of the NMI Soccer Training

The Northern Mariana Is- funding of the construction thusiasts in the CNMI.

approached the Marianas complex in Koblerville that is Visitors Authority yesterday intended to be the home and for possible assistance in the training ground for soccer en-

See SOCCER on Page 4

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ross Zapanta presents to the board of the Marianas Visitors Authority a plan to build a football complex in Koblerville, to be the home of local and international competitions.

SHORT ON STAFF:

Nursing crisis strains US hospitals

BY JILIAN MINCER

REUTERS

MORGANTOWN, Virginia (Reuters)—A shortage of nurses at U.S. hospitals hit West Virginia's Charleston Area Medical Center at the worst possible time.

The non-profit healthcare

ON THE NET

To see the graphic on the U.S. nursing shortage, click tmsnrt.rs/2xQ9Y0K

system is one of the state's largest employers and sits in the heart of economically depressed coal country. It faces

See NURSING on Page 4



to show up during her nursing shift at Swedish First Hill hospital in Seattle, Washington. STEVE RINGMAN/ SEATTLE TIMES/MCT

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Millions return to poverty in Brazil, eroding its 'boom' decade.

PAGE 14



ASIA

The last of the Islamic State militants in southern Marawi city are "finished."

PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

Here are 10 surprising things about "The Walking Dead."

PAGE 20



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2 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



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to many off-island performers for the very first ukulele festival on Saipan, but only

pense of the association.

performers so far.

and Taiwan.

has grown to 18.

day at the Garapan Fishing

Base, featuring visiting per-

formers from Japan, Korea,

Festival Association chair Larry Lee, the festival origi-

nally started with just one

visiting performer in its first

year. This year, that number

The performers were

The association reached out

brought to Saipan at the ex-

According to the Ukulele

one individual from Japan re-

sponded, Lee recounted. The next year, that same performer told a colleague from South Korea about the festival and

number of performers so far the number of on-island per-

formers continue to grow.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com In this year's edition, the The third iteration of the anfestival featured five Japanese performers, 12 Korean pernual ukulele festival in the Commonwealth over the formers, and one Taiwanese performer. Among the notable weekend managed to attract off-island performers were its largest batch of off-island JazzoomCafe, Mariko Uchi-The 3rd Annual Ukulele umi. Yusuke Saito and Nanaco Festival was held last Saturfrom Japan; Blues Lee, Vivian

Ukulele festival draws most

ble from Korea; and Vanessa Ding from Taiwan. Local CNMI performers, meanwhile, included the Saipan Community School, Alana'ia, Tata Lino Olopai & Ray Tebuteb, Sunset Cruisers, FESTPAC Warriors, Da Kine,

Kim, and the Ukulele Ensem-

Ukituki Band, among others. According to Lee, the festival highlighted the exchange of music and the exchange of culture among the islands' and visiting performers.

Demalyn Pagarao, Jose Carre-

on & Juan Ichihara, and the

The festival showcased numerous performances that started from 12pm until 9pm.

Lee believes that future ukulele festivals will only get bigger.

\$40K seized from family of 3

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Customs inspectors seized about \$40,000 from a family of three who had arrived at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport from Hong Kong last Aug. 8.

The Office of the Attorney General seeks to forfeit the money.

Under Commonwealth law, it is unlawful for any person to bring in an undeclared amount totaling more than \$10,000.

Assistant attorney general Hessel E. Yntema IV stated in the complaint before the Superior Court that undeclared money is considered contraband.

Yntema said that Chun Hung Lui did not declare the amount.

Lui, his wife, and his daughter arrived at the Saipan airport from Hong Kong via Hong Kong Express flight UO42 on Aug. 8.

A Customs inspector found the cash in an inspection of Lui s baggage.

Speaking through a translator, Lui allegedly told a Customs officer that he had \$8,000 and his wife had \$8,200.

Yntema said about \$39,975 was found.

The currency was in Hong Kong dollars (600 HKD), Chinese yuan (5,520), and U.S. dollars (\$39,374).

Yntema said Lui allegedly admitted that he intentionally hid the money and chose not to report it to avoid possible taxes.



'Healthcare a priority for supplemental appropriations'

By ERWIN ENCINARES

Healthcare remains a priority for upcoming supplemental appropriations, according to a statement from the Office of the Governor on Monday.

The next supplemental appropriation would be in December 2017, according to press secretary Kevin Bautista, but the exact amount has yet to be confirmed.

Despite that, Bautista said the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres would prioritize healthcare.

"The priority the governor has outlined will be healthcare, so the money would be divided among the hospital, Medicaid...and other things related to the healthcare industry," he said. "The supplemental budget would address healthcare and education as well as fulfilling other longstanding governmental obligations [among others]."

The statement was released in relation to current talks about at least 21-percent increases in Commonwealth Health Center rates.

The most recent supplemental appropriation—about \$20 million—went into paying the five largest land compensation debts the Commonwealth government owes.

Last year, the Torres administration released roughly \$41 million in additional appropriations in the form of Public of that was appropriated to the Law 19-75. Some \$7 million

Commonwealth Healthcare

Corp., which runs CHC, and \$2 million was appropriated to the Medical Referral Program. About \$9 million of the

funds went to land compensation debts, while \$10.2 million was appropriated to the Public School System.

ABTC eyes several unmarked vehicles, firearms for officers

The Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division wants to procure vehicles and firearms for their officers.

According to ABTC director David R. Maratita, Commonwealth law gives ABTC with the authority to conduct undercover operations but does not have the necessary tools for these operations.

"It just defeats the purpose of initiating that undercover operation if we do not have unmarked vehicles,"

Maratita told Saipan Tribune. "That makes it necessary for us to have the enforcement tool that would allow us to proceed with our investigation efforts."

According to Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), the Department of Public Safety as well as the Division of Customs are the only government agencies that are allowed to use unmarked vehicles for their operations.

"Everything is in place in

terms of investigative needs except [the unmarked vehicles] that will give us the necessary enforcement that needs to be done," said Maratita.

ABTC currently has one unmarked vehicle on "standby."

"We are also working at acquiring our firearms that would be provided to our law enforcement officers when they go out and do their duties," he added. "A year or two years down in the future, we are looking at

acquiring two or three more unmarked vehicles."

The House of Representatives Committee on Judicial and Governmental Operations unanimously adopted Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-132 last week. The bill seeks to allow the ABTC to own unmarked vehicles for their operations.

H.B. 20-132 now proceeds to the floor for deliberation and House action.

Australia's asylum seekers refuse to leave Papua New Guinea camp

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—More than 600 asylum seekers are refusing to leave an immigration camp on Papua New Guinea that Australia wants to close next week, Australian officials said on Monday.

Australia pays Papua New Guinea, its nearest neighbor, and the tiny Pacific island nation of Nauru to house asylum seekers who attempt to reach the Australian coast by boat. The United States has resettled 54 of them in recent weeks and is considering taking almost 1,200 more.

The Papua New Guinea Supreme Court ruled in April last year that the male-only camp at the Manus Island naval base was unconstitutional and ordered it be closed.

Papua New Guinea responded by opening the camp gates so that asylum seekers would no longer be locked up and the Australian and Papua New Guinea governments agreed in April that the camp would be closed by Oct. 31.

Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection deputy commissioner Mandy Newton told a Senate committee that 606 men refused to leave the Manus camp and move to accommodation in the township of Lorengau, about half an hour's drive away.

Department secretary Mike Pezzullo said they would be trespassing on the naval base on Nov. 1 if they did not leave. Food, water, electricity and other services would be cut off at the end of October, Newton said.

Pezzullo rejected a suggestion by Sen. Nick McKim, of the minor Greens party, that the men were too scared to leave Manus because refugees were assaulted in Lorengau by locals and attacked with machetes.



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NURSING

From Page 1

a \$40 million deficit this year as it struggles with fewer privately insured patients, cuts in government reimbursement and higher labor costs to attract a shrinking pool of

To keep its operations intact, Charleston Medical is spending this year \$12 million on visiting or "travel" nurses, twice as much as three years ago. It had no need for travel nurses a decade ago.

"I've been a nurse 40 years, and the shortage is the worst I've ever seen it," said Ron Moore, who retired in October

from his position as vice president and chief nursing officer for the center. Charleston Area Medical's incentives include tuition reimbursement for nursing students who commit to work at the hospital for two years.

"It's better to pay a traveler than to shut a bed," he said.

Hospitals nationwide face tough choices when it comes to filling nursing jobs. They are paying billions of dollars collectively to recruit and retain nurses rather than risk patient safety or closing down departments, according to Reuters interviews with more than 20 hospitals, including some of the largest U.S. chains.

In addition to higher salaries, retention and signing bonuses, they now offer perks such as student loan repayment, free housing and career mentoring, and rely more on foreign or temporary nurses to fill the gaps.

The cost nationwide for travel nurses alone nearly doubled over three years to \$4.8 billion in 2017, according to Staffing Industry Analysts, a global advisor on workforce issues.

The burden falls disproportionately on hospitals serving rural communities, many of them already straining under heavy debt like the Charleston Area Medical Center.

These hospitals must offer more money and benefits to compete with facilities in larger metropolitan areas, many

of them linked to well-funded universities, interviews with hospital officials and health experts show.

Along West Virginia's border with Pennsylvania, university-affiliated J.W. Rubv Memorial Hospital in Morgantown is spending \$10.4 million in 2017 compared with \$3.6 million a year earlier to hire and retain nurses.

But these costs are part of the facility's expansion this year, including adding more than 100 beds as it grows programs and takes over healthcare services from smaller rural providers that have scaled back or closed.

J.W. Ruby, the flagship hospital for WVU Medicine, offers higher pay for certain shifts, tuition reimbursement, \$10,000 signing bonuses and free housing for staff who live at least 60 miles away.

Next year, the hospital is considering paying college tuition for the family members of long-time nurses to keep them in West Virginia.

"We'll do whatever we need to do," said Doug Mitchell, vice president and chief nursing officer of WVU Medicine-WVU Hospitals.

Not like other shortages

Nursing shortages have occurred in the past, but the current crisis is far worse. The

SOCCER

public land.

Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates there will be more than a million registered nurse openings by 2024, twice the rate seen in previous shortages.

A major driver is the aging of the baby boomer generation, with a greater number of patients seeking care, including many more complex cases, and a new wave of retirements among trained nurses.

Industry experts, from hospital associations to Wall Street analysts, say the crisis is harder to address than in the past. A faculty shortage and too few nursing school slots has contributed to the problem.

TD 27W

From Page 1

night, but some gradual intensification is expected today, Tuesday, and Wednesday, according to the U.S. National Weather Service in Guam.

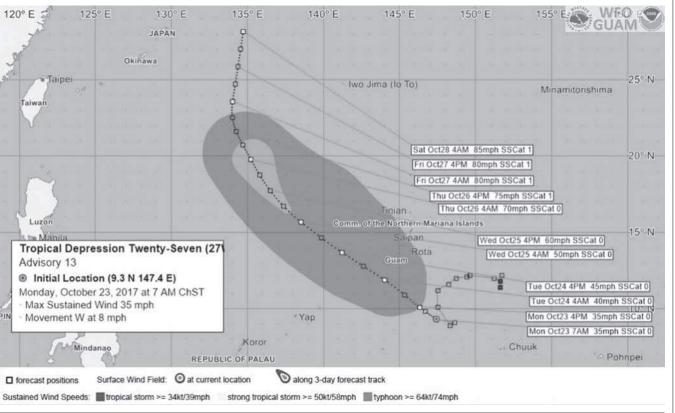
There is still much uncertainty on how close Tropical Depression 27W will pass Guam, Rota, or locations in Chuuk and Yap states.

As of 4pm yesterday, the center of 27W was 330 miles southsoutheast of Guam, 360 miles south-southeast of Rota, 410 miles south of Tinian, 415 miles south of Saipan, 125 miles north of Satawal, and 355 miles westnorthwest of Chuuk.

For Guam and Rota, the weather service said that seas will build to between 12 and 14 feet today, Tuesday, and surf of 10 to 14 feet is possible along north and west facing reefs.

For Rota, Saipan, and Tinian, seas of 9 to 12 feet will continue through Wednesday, then begin to slowly diminish Wednesday night and should fall below hazardous levels Thursday.

The U.S. National Weather Service and the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency advised inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, to avoid sailing in these conditions.



MAN

From Page 1

Teregevo, had a bail hearing in Superior Court yesterday. He is charged with first-degree murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, arson, assault and battery, criminal mischief, and disturbing the peace.

Teregeyo is also accused of choking the alleged victim and starting a fire at their house on Saipan last Friday morning. The police report did not indicate the village where they live.

A \$100,000 cash bail was imposed on the suspect; preliminary hearing is on Oct. 30 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit represents Teregeyo. Assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio is prosecuting the case.

According to police, police officer Dixon Kwon responded on Friday to a report of a house on fire and arrived at the scene at 7:56am.

Kwon indicated that he could smell a strong odor of gasoline on the alleged victim and inside the house.

view, the alleged victim stated that she and Teregeyo were having an argument in the house's bedroom when Teregeyo went outside, brought in a container filled with gasoline, and spilled it around the entrance of the bedroom, inside the bedroom, and on his girlfriend's body.

The girl tried to leave the bedroom, but Teregeyo allegedly choked her and pushed her, causing her to fall. That's when she allegedly yelled for help. Teregeyo then allegedly shoved a shirt in her mouth.

Teregeyo then burned a cardboard box and dropped it on the ground, triggering a fire in the house.

The girl ran to the nearby house of a sister-in-law, where she locked the door.

Police detective Jenny Rose During the officer's inter- A. Butalon said that when she and another detective responded to the scene, they saw a pile of burnt clothes in the living room and noticed that the floor was wet. In the living room, another pile of burnt clothes was on the floor. The bed, pillows, wall, and closet also had signs of being charred. On the right side of the bedroom was a black cord plugged into the outlet on the wall that was also burnt and covered with black smudges.

> Butalon said that she and investigators interviewed Teregeyo at the De

partment of Corrections, where he admitted pushing his girlfriend several times on the chest, to prevent her from getting out of the room.

He also allegedly admitted putting a blouse inside her mouth to prevent her from screaming. He admitted pouring gasoline on the clothes, around the bed, and the closet, but said the gasoline just splashed on her.

Teregeyo allegedly admitted taking a piece of paper and burning it on a stove. While taking the lit paper to the living room, his girlfriend allegedly held his legs, causing the paper to fall on the bedroom door and start the fire.

The report did not indicate who put out the fire.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo presided over the bail hearing.

From Page 1 The project was presented to the board of the MVA yesterday by Ross Zapanta, general secretary of the NMIFA.

"As the sole officiating organizer and governing body of soccer in the CNMI, which have men's, women's, youth, and masters teams, the project is very important to NMIFA and the CNMI government because the completion will redound to the benefit of the CNMI community," he said.

The complex will be built on

"Our main focus is the youth in the CNMI and ultimately the health of our community," he added.

Currently, the NMIFA has no football facility that they can call their own. They utilize the football fields in different public schools to conduct their programs and activities. Schools are being adopted by the teams of the NMIFA as their home for their training.

"Almost all public schools are playing venues of the NMIFA. Seven out nine of these schools actually have baseball fields and we are sharing the fields with the baseball teams," Zapanta said.

"Principal leagues are held at Hopwood Middle School. Every Saturday, the men's team and the youth team use the San Antonio and Koblerville elementary schools," he added.

According to him, the Koblerville complex is designed to be used for international competitions, a place where local teams would have the same tools as their competitors. The facility will have better lighting, better grass for the safety of players, and proper seats for players and spectators. It is touted as a means to improve the playing level of the athletes and promote the sport to local players as well as the community.

"The complex will have one regular-sized soccer field, together with a building or stadium. The field will be covered with artificial turf that proven to be durable and easy to maintain. It is going to be covered with lighting so that league [games] and practices can be held in the evenings," he said.

Zapanta said they have four sources of funding so far: NMIFA members, the CNMI community, private foundations, and non-profit funders (main source). "And we intend to ask the support of public agencies such as MVA," he added.

"To cut costs, the project was divided into two phases," Zapanta said.

Phase 1 involves installation of the artificial grass turf of 80 x 120 yards, which is projected to be done on Dec. 15, with under drainage, team benches with clear covers on the side, and lighting.

Overall, phase 1 is expected to be finished by March 2018.

"Phase 2 involves construction of the building that will have the NMIFA offices and training rooms for coaches and teams, and parking lot."

"Phase 1 will cost \$2.5 million and NMFA currently has \$1.5 million from private donors. The balance is what we are working on," he said.

MVA board chair Gloria Cavanagh said the board will study and see how MVA can help.

MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said that sports tourism is a very important part of MVA's marketing efforts to promote the CNMI as a healthy destination for families and individuals.

"We are excited about NMI-FA's project to build the soccer complex. We do encourage them to seek funding like what **[the Northern Marianas Sports** Association] did for the track and field in Oleai when they secured almost a million [dollars] from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.," said Concepcion."

"The MVA will see how we can support this project as \$1.6 million was cut from our budget so we will have to review all our projects. We will go back to this at some time and see what we can provide to support the project," he added.



The Division of Parks and Recreations, in tandem with the Saipan Mayor's Office, worked early yesterday morning to clear the Saipan Beach Road Pathway of marine litter and seaweed as a result of the storm surge over the weekend.

Acting Parks and Recreations director Ray Sablan was seen yesterday with his team clearing the seaweed and ocean debris that littered the pathway.

According to a previous *Saipan Tribune* article, a strong swell from a distant super typhoon over the weekend resulted in strong waves washing piles of seaweed onto the pathway.

Sablan said he and his team headed for Beach Road as early as 10am yesterday and worked until sundown to ensure that all garbage washed ashore would be cleared from the pathway.

The Parks and Recreation group was joined by the Saipan Mayor's Office shortly after.

Parks and Recreations started its cleanup at the 13 Fishermen pavilion, while the Saipan Mayor's Office started from the Oleai pavilion, and the two groups met in the middle.

When asked how the job went, Sablan said the group has encountered worse. "It's alright. It was not as bad as Soudelor," he said.

Waters rose to 30 feet last Sunday morning near Saipan and receded slowly from 10 to 20 feet Sunday evening. (Kimberly A. Bautista)

'Increase in local GDP translates to high demand for skilled labor'

By BEA CABRERA

bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com

The 28.6-percent increase in the CNMI's gross domestic product in fiscal year 2016 reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis will translate to a greater demand for labor, according to Latte Training Academy director Arielle Buyum.

As the islands' economy grows, skills training would continue to thrive, she said.

"This also means that there is a higher demand for a trained and available labor force. For Latte Training Academy it means that there will continue to be a need for a trained and available workforce," she said.

"GDP is the key indicator for economic health, so for businesses, it serves as a signal when making decisions relating to investments or the launching of a new enterprise," Buyum added.

The Latte Training Academy, formed in late 2013, was in response to the impending deadline of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program in 2019 and the need for local workforce development. Currently, the academy has a passing rate of 95 percent among its graduates.

Buyum said the casino investment is probably the single biggest factor for the

CNMI's economic growth.

"When economic spending occurred because of that, there was more money circulating in the economy, more items being imported and tourism—which is counted as an export—increased, the CNMI's tax base increased, and on-island spending increased because the employment resulting from the investment allowed people to work and earn. The wage increases also probably helped to some extent, prompting an increase in disposable income," she said.

Buyum believes that a strong economy provides opportunities for additional investment, but also some breathing room to develop a diversified economy to continue to provide employment opportunities and the ability for local families to justify the financial feasibility of returning to the CNMI to work.

"Learning from the CNMI's economic history, it is critical to develop additional industries during a strong economy," she said. "A strong economy means more employment opportunities within the community, which translates to LTA providing services that are needed."

The BEA reported Monday last week that the CNMI's gross domestic product grew by 28.6 percent in 2016.



Triple J donates to Red Cross, Ayuda Network

over a donation totaling \$5,500 to two community

organizations last Friday for on Saipan.

Led by Triple J Enterprises donated \$5,000 to the American their community operations Inc. chief executive officer Red Cross-NMI Chapter and



Representatives of both Triple J Saipan Inc. and the American Red Cross NMI Chapter pose for a picture following the check presentation to Red Cross and the Ayuda Network last Friday at the Surf Club.

Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 18

The annual Brilliant Star School Holiday Bazaar will be held on Nov. 18, a Saturday, from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for island residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for

the holidays.

"We're looking forward to another year of showcasing our island's arts, crafts and gifts. We still have tables available for any interested artists or vendors," said Richard Sikkel, one of the event organizers.

Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827).

In the past, shoppers have graced by performances of

commented on the convenience and comfort of finding such a variety of island gifts in a single place ahead of the holidays. For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children. We will watch your child and help them with an art project while you do your holiday shopping.

The daylong event is also

various community cultural, dance, music, and martial arts performing can call the school at 323-7827

during the day. Raffle prizes have been donated through the generosity of island businesses and vendors.

"We look forward to welcoming the community to this wonderful event," said Sikkel. (PR)

groups. Groups interested in There will also be raffles

> Military training at Warning Area 517 ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at

Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times: ■ Oct. 24, from 8:30am to 5pm

"We always feel that we must

give back," said Jones. "We

must put more in the pot than

we take out so that we leave

for the many charities throughout Micronesia. "We appreci-

ate the work that all of you

do for various causes that you

have and we want to help out in

According to ARC-NMI Chapter executive direc-

tor John Hirsh, the donation

would be used for the chapter's various operations.

"These are resources that

Free presentation, workshops on oral history Rlene Santos Steffy, an ethnographer and oral history practitioner, will be presenting on her television series, i Tinaotao Marianas, at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center theater on Oct. 24, starting at 6pm, followed by a two-day oral history workshop at Kagman High School on Oct. 25 and Oct. 26, beginning at 8:45am. Both events are free and open to the public. Attendees of the Oct. 24 presentation will receive a special voucher to use towards the purchase of Season 1 and 2 of i

JIL Church Saipan to mark 20[™] anniversary The CNMI community is invited to attend the Jesus is Lord

Church Saipan's 20th anniversary celebration on Nov. 5, 3pm at

the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. From its humble beginning of small Bible study group established on March 6,

1997, by seven Filipino workers who were originally from differ-

ent JIL churches in the Philippines, this congregation has grown

over the years. The JIL Church Saipan congregation now hosts

its members at their sanctuary in San Vicente. There are three

services available every Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, and 6pm. For

JIL Church Saipan is one of the many churches all over the

Philippines and in 55 different countries under the Jesus Is Lord

Church Worldwide founded and headed by Eddie Villanueva. At

present, it has over 4 million members around the world. (PR)

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Tinaotao Marianas. (PR)

any way we can," he said.

some for the less fortunate." Jones expressed appreciation

■ Oct. 25, from 8:30am to 8pm

■ Oct. 27, from 10:30am to 10pm

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories

services here in the Com-

monwealth for the Red Cross, whether it's a single-family

fire; to teach a first-aid class,

or to ready our volunteers for a major typhoon or event that is

expected to happen," he said,

adding that the chapter even

deploys volunteers to disasters in the U.S. mainland such as

the recent string of typhoons

Affairs Shelane Borja, who re-

ceived the donation on behalf of the Ayuda Network, cited a

youth empowerment awareness booklet that the Ayuda Network

is working on to "try and em-

power our students to be more

involved and do more activities out there." (Erwin Encinares)

Special assistant for Youth

and California wildfires.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. (PR)

Casting call for FOA Christmas show

The ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society will stage Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol. The auditions will be held at the Marianas High School tomorrow, Oct. 25, starting at 6pm. Show dates will be Dec. 15, 16, and 17. For more information, contact Marilou at 256-9540 or email saipanfoa@gmail.com, subject line: Christmas Show. (PR)

OVR to host Employer Forum

The State Rehabilitation Council and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, in partnership with San Diego State University Research Foundation's Interwork Institute, will be conducting their triennial "Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Project" with employers on Oct. 24 and 25, 2017 (select a date for participation only) from 1pm to 2:30pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

OVR highly encourages all employers to take advantage of the "Employer's Forum" as it will be both informative and beneficial for their organization. Employers comprise a new category and dialogue with employers will center on their business needs and the opportunities for inclusion and innovation.

If you have any questions, email Joseph B. Roberto at jroberto@ovrgov.net or contact OVR at 322-6537 or 322-6538. (PR)



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/CGC-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017 TIME: 11:00AM

"PREVENTION INTERVENTION PROGRAM/ **COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

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8 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

2017 Field of Heroes Recognition Luncheon



































Poker arcade operator sues govt, Zoning

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A company that runs poker machines on Saipan is suing the CNMI government and the Zoning board to stop them from enforcing a law that would require the company to move its machines out of villages.

Sin Ho Nam and his company, Winnerslife Inc., and Nam's poker machines operator, Dan Bi Choi LLC, are suing the CNMI government and Commonwealth Zoning Board chair Diego C. Blanco for violation of due process.

The poker machines are located in Kagman and Finasisu.

As of press time last night, Saipan Tribune was still waiting for comments from Blanco.

Nam, a Korean national, holds a long-term business certificate in the CNMI since 2008. He changed the corporate name of his company from Sin Ho Development Inc. to Winnerslife Inc.

Dan Bin Choi LLC currently operates a number of poker machines owned by Nam and Winnerslife.

Nam, Winnerslife, and Dan Bin Choi LLC, though counsel Robert T. Torres, asked the Superior Court to declare that enforcing Public Law 18-05, the Saipan Adult Machine

Business Zoning Law of 2013, interferes with and will deprive them of legally protected interests.

Winnerslife owns 19 poker machines in the CNMI.

For each one, Winnerslife pays to the Commonwealth an annual fee of \$12,000.

Dan Bi Choi LLC currently operates a number of poker machines owned by Winnerslife. Dan Bi Choi LLC's

operational license expires on La Fiesta on Saipan. June 29, 2018.

Following its grant of an exclusive gambling license for casino gambling in Public Law 18-38, the Legislature declared that after April 2, 2015, no new or additional licenses for poker, pachinko, or similar amusement machines would be granted or allowed to operate outside of the approved casino establishment, hotel, or

Torres said licenses issued for poker, pachinko, and similar amusement machines that began operation prior to April 2, 2015, were allowed to continue operation.

Then, Torres said, in 2013 the Legislature enacted Saipan Local Law 18-05 to shut down poker parlors in residential villages.

He said Public Law 18-05

provided that "within four years of the effective date of... [Public Law 18-05], at the end of the last full renewal period of its license from the Department of Finance prior to the deadline," all nonconforming adult gambling machine businesses had to be located in an Adult Business Park, a Tourist Resort, or "Mixed commercial, Garapan Core, Garapan East, or Beach Road Zoning Districts," so long as the establishment was located 200 feet from any other adult

gambling machine business, and any church, Laundromat, public and private school, park or playground.

The late governor Eloy S. Inos signed Saipan Local Law 18-5 into law on Oct. 25, 2013.

Torres said that Zoning has declared that Saipan poker owners and operators should shut down or required to pay a daily penalty of \$1,000 unless the owners of these establishments abandon their leasehold interests and their investments, and relocate.



MEET-AND-GREET

The Team NMA's high school boys and girls of Saipan International School have their picture at the McDonald's branch in Tumon Bay, Guam, with Derek Mandell, a two-time Olympian mid-distance runner from Guam, and Scott James Fiti, the top sprinter from the Federated States of Micronesia and 2020 Olympic hopeful. Overall, the team took eighth place, with the girls finishing in seventh place. Robin Sapong of the Northern Marianas Athletics arranged the meeting at McDonald's. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM P.O. BOX 501370 SAIPAN, MP 96950



PUBLIC NOT

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fifteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives Notice that there will be a Special Board Executive Session Meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Board of Education Conference Room, Building 1241, Capital Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA 1

- Preliminary
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Adoption of Agenda
- II. Public Comments²
- III. **New Business**
 - 1. COE Goals and Objectives 2017
 - 2. COE Duties and Responsibilities
 - 3. COE Contract & NOPA
 - 4. COE Evaluation Tools
 - 5. Timeline for COE Evaluation
- IV. Executive Session³
 - 1. Legal Updates
 - 2. Personnel
 - 3. Other matters
- Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting
- VI. Adjournment
- In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date
- Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each
- Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.







FREE Small Business Development Workshops

UNDERSTANDING TAXES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES



Friday, October 27th, 2017

9:00am—10:00am





Presented by: Ernst & Young (EY)

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. One of the Big 4 auditing firms, the insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in the economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, our clients and for our communities. The EY Saipan Office was established in 1993 and provides a wide variety of auditing, consulting and tax services to business throughout Saipan and Micronesia. We serve most of the large private businesses and hotels in Saipan.

Your presenters: Shamika Ratwatte, CPA & Andrea Hofschneider, CPA— Ernst & Young

Shamika is a U.S. CPA with over 7 years of professional experience in providing assurance and advisory services to clients in Guam and the CNMI. Shamika has an MBA in Accounting from Hawaii Pacific University. He is the Treasurer of the both the Rotary Club of Saipan and the Marianas Tourism Education Council. He is Co-Chair of the Education Council of the

Andrea is a U.S. CPA with over 4 years of professional experience in public accounting providing tax and assurance services to clients in the San Francisco Bay Area and the CNMI. Andrea has a Master of Accountancy from Golden Gate University. She is a member of Saipan Young Professionals, a committee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Both Shamika and Andrea have in-depth knowledge of US GAAP, and local knowledge of CNMI business norms, taxes and regulations. They are based in Saipan and have experience in serving most of the largest private sector businesses in the CNMI which are clients of EY.

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Limited Seating. Register now at: pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018

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10 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

McCain's eloquent final chapter must include strong actions

S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., gave a speech Monday night that deserves to be heard or read by every American. McCain talked about what it means to be American, with all of its blessings and its obligations, and what America means to the world.

McCain was being honored with the Liberty Medal of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia for his efforts to "secure the blessings of liberty to people around the globe."

Press coverage of the event focused on McCain's veiled shot at the Trump administration for shirking America's leadership role in the world: "To fear the world we have organized and led for three-quarters of a century, to abandon the ideals we have advanced around the globe, to refuse the obligations of international leadership and our duty to remain 'the last best hope of earth' for the sake of some half-baked, spurious nationalism cooked up by people who would rather find scapegoats than solve problems is as unpatriotic as an attachment to any other tired dogma of the past that Americans consigned to the ash heap of history."

That was the money quote, but there was much more, including a condemnation of the "blood and soil" rhetoric of neo-Nazis who marched in Charlottesville, Va., in August:

"We live in a land made of ideals, not blood and soil. We are the custodians of those ideals at home, and their champion abroad. We have done great good in the world. That leadership has had its costs, but we have become incomparably powerful and wealthy as we did. We have a moral obligation to continue in our just cause, and we would bring more than shame on ourselves if we don't. We will not thrive in a world where our leadership and ideals are absent. We wouldn't deserve to."

Context is as important as content. McCain, 81, has been given what he calls a "very poor prognosis" for an aggressive brain cancer. He appears to be writing the last chapter of an extraordinary life. He has gone from Naval Academy wild man to heroic prisoner of war to maverick Republican senator to conventional Republican nominee for president who, despite his "Country First" slogan, chose the spectacularly unqualified Sarah Palin as his running mate.

He is now back in maverick mode, casting the deciding vote against his party's Obamacare repeal-and-replace bill in July. He voted against GOP tax cuts in 2001 and 2003 because they were fiscally irresponsible and tilted to the rich. He might do it again.

President Donald Trump was unhappy with McCain's remarks, saying, "I'm being very, very nice but at some point I fight back, and it won't be pretty." To which McCain replied, "I have faced tougher adversaries."

John McCain needs no lecturing on patriotism or duty. But his country still needs him.

(c)2017 St. Louis Post-Dispatch



Bannon only dances during cloudbursts

Washington lobbyist once told me that the first rule of rainmakers is: "If it starts to rain, dance!"

In other words, if you're hired to get something

done, by all means take credit for it if it happens, even if you had nothing to do with it.

Another version of the same principle is Ferris Buellerism. In

Another version of the same principle is Ferris Buellerism. In the movie "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," the precocious teen sees a parade in downtown Chicago and proceeds to run in front of it as if he'd been leading it all along.

Fired White House aide Steve Bannon is a quintessential Ferris Bueller. My late friend Andrew Breitbart created the media empire that regrettably still bears his name. When he died, Bannon took over the parade Andrew launched.

Bannon followed the same playbook in the 2016 presidential race. He boarded the Trump train late and pretended he'd been the conductor all along. As Trump himself put it: "I like Steve, but you have to remember he was not involved in my campaign until very late. I had already beaten all the senators and all the governors, and I didn't know Steve. I'm my own strategist, and it wasn't like I was going to change strategies because I was facing crooked Hillary."

In the recent Alabama GOP runoff for U.S. Senate, Trump and Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell supported incumbent Sen. Luther Strange, whose weakness as a candidate could be attributed to his near-total lack of charisma and the dodgy circumstances of his appointment to fill Attorney General Jeff Sessions' former Senate seat. (As Alabama's attorney general, Strange pushed to delay the impeachment of the governor, creating the appearance of a backroom deal.)

Strange's opponent in the runoff was former Alabama Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore, a well-known and controversial figure in the state. Moore was always way ahead in the polls. But Bannon parachuted into the state and backed the likely winner, insisting that a vote for Moore was a vote for Trump's agenda and would serve as a thumb in the eye of the Washington establishment, particularly McConnell. Moore won, and rainmaker Bannon danced, taking credit for something that would have happened anyway.

Now, Bannon is claiming he will back candidates to challenge every incumbent senator up for re-election in 2018, save for Ted Cruz, who is supported by the billionaire Mercer family, patrons of Bannon and Breitbart News.

It's understandable that Bannon and his employees at Breitbart would want to perpetuate the myth of Bannon's rainmaking

By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.



skills. They're in the business of monetizing anger at Washington and the GOP "establishment." Less forgivable, if not necessarily less understandable, is the eagerness of the political press to perpetuate the myth that Bannon is a master political strategist and a kingmaker in Republican politics.

In 2016, at the height of Trump's popularity with grassroots Republicans, Breitbart tried his "fight the establishment" shtick and failed miserably. He backed Trump copycat Paul Nehlen's bid to topple House Speaker Paul Ryan in the Wisconsin GOP primary. Nehlen lost by 68 percentage points. Bannon tried the same thing in Senate primaries in Alabama, Arizona and Indiana and got shellacked in each of them.

"Watching Bannon make threats against entrenched Republican senators is like watching an armchair fantasy-football player manage a professional football team," National Journal political editor Josh Kraushaar writes. "He'll quickly find that beating Hillary Clinton may look like child's play compared to toppling entrenched Republican senators with ample resources behind them."

Or maybe not. Given the anger at the GOP "establishment," the Bannon-backed challengers might win their primary fights. Those candidates might then go on to lose in the general election, as McConnell recently warned in a Rose Garden appearance with the president. "Bannonism"—to the extent that it's an "ism"—may not appeal to the traditional conservatives and swing voters needed to win a general election.

If the Bannonistas lose, you can be sure Bannon will insist they were stabbed in the back by the "establishment" and "disloyal" Republicans. And if they win in the primaries or the general elections, it will certainly be due to their own merits and the anger of the GOP base at the Washington dysfunction that fuels right-wing populism these days. When it rains he'll dance, taking credit for wins he didn't earn, and he'll blame losses on the dysfunction he helps fuel.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUM-BER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be

trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month

By GREG BORJA

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

ccording to stopbullying.gov, bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children. It involves a real or perceived power imbalance and the behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying comes in many forms: verbal, social, physical, and cyber bullying.

While children may get bullied for many reasons, children with disabilities are at a higher risk of being bullied. Children with physical vulnerabilities, like using crutches or a wheelchair, or children with social skill challenges, like those on the autism spectrum, may seem different from their peers and are often targeted by bullies as they may seem weak and/or unable to defend themselves.

Stopbullying.gov further reports that 1 in 3 students have been bullied and when children are bullied the results may include feelings of depression and anxiety. Signs of these include increased feelings of sadness and loneliness, changes in sleep and eating patterns, and loss of interest in activities they used to enjoy. These issues may continue into adulthood.

Creating a safe environment for children with disabilities is not only beneficial to all, but it is also the law. Some children with disabilities are also students who may be enrolled in special education or under a 504 plan to ensure they are given equal access to education. "When bullying is directed at a child because of his or her established disability and it creates a hostile environment at school, bullying behavior may cross the line and become 'disability harassment.' Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation

Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the school must address the harassment."

While our Public School System does have policies in place to address bullying behaviors, we as a community share in the responsibility for keeping our children safe. Adults who witness bullying have the ability to prevent future occurrences by telling kids who bully that their behavior is unacceptable and by reporting the incidents to school officials.

Please visit stopbullying.gov for more information about bullying and how to prevent it. For information about protections for students with disabilities, please contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4 or online at www.nmpasi.org.

Greg Borja is projects specialist at the Northern Marianas Protection Advocacy Systems Inc.

Gauging president's effect on labor market

By NOAH SMITH

BLOOMBERG VIEW

always laugh when I see stories asking how many jobs the president has created. This language is common in the news media, as well as in the boasts of certain presidents. To be -fair, most people understand the phrase as shorthand for how much employment growth there was during a president's time on the job. But many people seem to hold the president personally responsible for the ups and downs of the labor market.

But how true is that? There are basically two ways the country's chief executive can create jobs—policy and rhetoric. Both of these are very limited tools. Some policies can be implemented with executive orders—if they pass legal muster. But most of the really significant policy changes have to go through Congress, which is a balky and gridlocked institution. Then, if a policy gets congressional imprimatur, it has to actually have a big influence on the economy.

Most policies probably don't make much difference by themselves. Most are small regulatory tweaks or minor changes to spending and taxation. Occasionally, something big will get through—George W. Bush's tax cuts, Obamacare or the 2009 stimulus. Even then, it may take years for the policy to have an effect.

Even if presidents' policies do manage to help the economy, it's hard to quantify their impact. The standard deviation of the net number of jobs added or lost in the U.S. each month since January 2001 is about 226,000. That's more than three times the average monthly change—in other words, employment is extremely volatile. That's a sign that there are plenty of other forces at work in the economy other than presidential policy—changes in business or consumer sentiment, trade patterns, productivity growth, other government policies or simply the timing of business decisions. Trying to measure the results of a presidential policy would require waiting years just to isolate the signal from the noise. But in those intervening years, other long-term changes happen to the economy.

Even when policy does have an effect, it's probably not as big as people think. The most optimistic estimates claim that the Bush tax cuts of 2001 increased gross domestic product by a total of 1.5 percent and the Obama stimulus reduced unemployment by 1.8 percent—good results, but not spectacular, And many estimates place the effects as being even smaller.

The second way presidents could affect the economy is through rhetoric. A president's confidence could buoy businesses and consumers, causing them to spend more. Or he might threaten to carry out dangerous policies, causing uncertainty among business leaders and damping investment. Some economists have tried to quantify the latter by looking at how much uncertainty gets expressed in news outlets, but except in a few special cases it's hard to tell why uncertainty rise and fall.

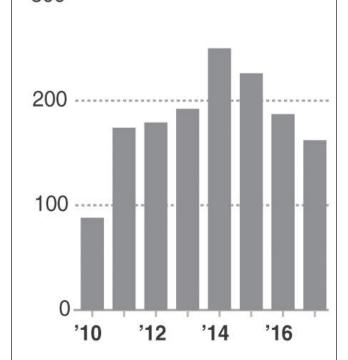
There is evidence that the economy tends to do better when Democratic presidents are in power. Economists Alan Blinder and Mark Watson found this in a 2015 paper:

These numbers show that since World War II, Democratic

U.S. job growth

Average monthly net

(In thousands)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Graphic: Los Angeles Times/TNS

presidents have presided over stronger economies than Republican ones. The difference exists regardless of which party controlled Congress.

So does this mean that Democrats, either through wise policy or by positive rhetoric, give the economy a giant boost? Maybe not. First of all, this is a small sample, so it could easily all be luck. John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson were president during most of the high-growth 1960s, and Bill Clinton during the technology boom of the 1990s, while Richard Nixon was unlucky enough to be in office during the oil shock of 1973. Blinder and Watson explore a number of these luck-related factors in their paper, concluding that these random events, more than monetary or fiscal policies, helped Democratic presidents.

Second, election results depend on the economy. It could be that recessions cause white working-class voters—who tend to vote Republican based on cultural and social issues—to defect to the Democrats. This probably happened in 1992 and 2008. Then,

By NOAH SMITH

Bloomberg View

Noah Smith is a Bloomberg View columnist. He was an assistant professor of finance at Stony Brook University, and he blogs at Noahpinion. Readers may eamil him at nsmith150@bloomberg.net.



when the economy recovers from the downturn, the Democratic president might reap the political benefit from the bounce-back, winning reelection and staying in office during the rest of the

That pattern looks to have reversed itself in the most recent election. The Great Recession was so deep, and the recovery from it took so long, that it wasn't until the end of Obama's second term that wages and employment really started to look healthy. That allowed Trump to win back many white workingclass voters by appealing to racial and cultural issues. But since the post-Great Recession boom is only now getting underway, Trump will probably be able to enjoy a political windfall from a continued strong economy.

In other words, the illusion that the president controls the economy helped Democrats in 1996 and 2012. But in 2020, there's a good chance that it will be the Republican who gets to take credit for all the jobs he supposedly created.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Enraged!

To the Attorney General's Office: Wow! This is so intense. I don't know if I can take this. Get your facts straight! Focus on the pressing issues that's affecting the CNMI rather than destroying innocent peoples' lives! It's enough I'm battling with my illness, unemployment, and the sacrifice I had to make to help my daughter, and now this!

And to the Office of the Public Auditor, I don't deserve this and you guys know it! Thank you for ruining my life and also for those that were let go before me. I was proud working for this office and did my best to make it function the way it should! A number of good employees were let go or have left. Why? What was our mandate? To Investigate waste, fraud and abuse! So my question is, who investigates OPA! And to those that are involved, I'll let karma take its course. You know who you are. I found peace! I forgive you and still love you all!

Is anyone willing to pay for my airfare back home? I don't have any income. Anyone willing to represent me? Something needs to be done.

Violita A. Diaz

via email

12 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN



storms. Southeast winds 25 to 35 mph.

▲ 88° ▼79°



Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

88° **▼78°**



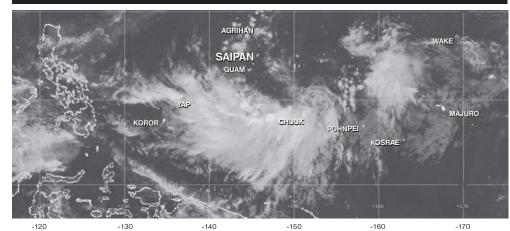
isolated showers and **▼78° ▲** 88°

isolated showers.

₹78° ▲ 88°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE

▲ 88° ▼78°



PICTURE TIME: 7:30 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Still some debate on what Tropical Depression 27W will do. It did move to the southeast overnight and resumed a more westward track early this morning. The convection is not that close to the center and so the system will be slow to increase in intensity which is what the models and JTWC forecast show. Models do seem in fair agreement with 27W passing south and southwest of Guam sometime on Tuesday. It may become a tropical storm as it passes on Tuesday. It is not certain if it will reach this intensity since the system still is undergoing some wind shear. One thought to consider is that after looking at the surface analysis is that despite the small insignificant size of 27W it is embedded inside a larger circulation pattern. Also looking at the satellite imagery there are hints of this larger circulation pattern. Could the depression quickly gel into a better organized system. At this time it does not appear to be ready to do this and models suggest if it does, it will be passed the local area. At the very least 27W will bring some showery weather with the possibility of gusty winds tonight through Wednesday night.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESI	A	▲ ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

Majuro	Inunderstorms	861/801
AROUND TH	E GLOBE	▲ ▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	63° / 55°
Beijing	Cloudy	61° / 46°
Hong Kong	Sunny	82° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83° / 72°
London	Sunny	100° / 70°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	76° / 59°
Manila	Showers	90° / 75°
Melbourne	Showers	72° / 55°
Miami	Thunderstorms	85° / 72°
New York	Thunderstorms	73° / 62°
Osaka	Showers	66° / 54°
Paris	Cloudy	64° / 54°
Busan	Sunny	70° / 52°
Rome	Sunny	72° / 50°
Salem	Sunny	70° / 43°
San Francisco	Sunny	79° / 54°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	64° / 45°
Tokyo	Showers	61° / 52°
Washington, DC	Rain	72° / 54°



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

 	,, 5 - 1, 5,	
TIDES: SAIP	AN HARBOR TO	DAY FEET
4:15 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.01
11:02 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.76
4:52 PM	LOW TIDE	1.09
9:33 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.65

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:36 am	9:15 pm	-
Wednesday	10:25 am	10:02 pm	-
Thursday	11:13 am	10:50 pm	-
Friday	12:00 pm	11:40 pm	-
Saturday	12:46 pm	-	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS	OF OCTOBER 4, 2017
DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

FL	IGH	T SCI	IEDULE AS	o o F	ОСТО	BER 4,	2017
	DE	PARTU	RES			ARRIVAI	LS
SAIPAN-GL	JAM (G	UM)		GUA	M (GUM)-SA	AIPAN	
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45a	m 3:35am	Daily
UA6392		9:30am	Daily	UA6395		m 8:05am	Daily
UA6391		3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391			1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390 UA6398		3:10pm 6:55pm	2, 3, 6 Daily	UA6390 UA6397			2, 3, 6 via Rota Daily
UA6396		10:40pm	Daily	UA6399		m 9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-RO					M (GUM)-RO		
UA6391	•	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	` ,	m 12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROF				ROTA	(ROP)-SA	•	, ,
UA6391	•	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	` '	m 1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NA			1, 1, 0, 1		TA (NRT)-S	'	2, 0, 0
DL297	•	7:05pm	Daily	DL298	· , ,	m 3:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BU			Dally		N (PUS)-S		Dally
	•		4.7		_ ` ′		4
7C3451 7C3451		6:10am 7:05am	1, 7 4, 5	7C3452 7C3452		m 2:10am+1 m 2:10am+1	4 3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SE			٦, ٥		JL (ICN)-SA		5, 6, 7
TW308		5:20am	2, 3, 4	7C3402	, ,	m 3:00pm	Daily
OZ626		6:00am	2, 3, 4 1	TW307	9.30a 7:05p		
TW308		6:20am	6, 7	OZ625	7:40p		7
OZ626		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	8:05p		5, 6
ZE582		7:00am	Daily	OZ625		m 1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403 LJ652		8:30am 8:35am	Daily	ZE581 LJ651	9:00p 10:00p		Daily
7C3401		6.35am 7:45pm	Daily Daily	7C3404		m 3:40am+1	Daily Daily
SAIPAN-SH			Buny		IGHAI (PVC		Bany
3U8648		8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	,	m 4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HA			1, 4, 5, 1			H)-SAIPAN	
JD396		10:25am	1	JD395	8:10a	· ·	4
JD396		8:15pm	4	JD395		m 5:30am+1	
SAIPAN-NA					ING (NKG)		
XP889		10:30pm	3, 5, 7	XP888	• •	m 4:00am+1	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GL						AN)-SAIPA	
3U8646		7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	`	m 3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BE			=, 0		NG (PEK)-S		., 0
MU764	,	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	· · · · · ·	m 12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MA			3, 3, 1		LA (MNL)-S		_, ,, ,
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6	· , ,		2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/6			7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/6	625 12:15p	m 1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via 10
UA6394/PR111		9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM	UA192/6			2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6394/PR111			3, 5, 7 via GUM 5 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6	3395 10:25p JA6395 10:55p		1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GU
UA6391/183 UA6391/183	1:30pm 1:30pm		1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6			Daily via GUM 2, 5 via GUM
UA6391/193		10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	0,1101,0	71.00р	0.00am	2, 0 114 00111
UA6390/183		8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm		3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HO		•				KG)-SAIPAI	
HX077		5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/6			7 via ICN
OZ626/721 OZ626/721	2:20am 2:50am		1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/6 HX076	625 1:10p 5:20p		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via l0 3, 7
UO43	4:40am		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	UO42	6:10p		1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6			1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

		ુ	IAR WARIA	MAS AIR	, INC.		
SAIPAN T	O ROTA			1204 1205	10:00AM 11:00AM	10:15AM 11:15AM	Daily Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO	SAIPAN			1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	TINIAN TO	O SAIPAN		
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
ROTA TO	GUAM			2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO	ROTA			2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
		A D D IV (A I	EDECHENOV	2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2107 2108	12:30PM 1:30PM	12:45PM 1:45PM	Daily Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2100	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
SAIPAN T	O TINIAN			2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily				,

LOCAL TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 **13** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Docomo gives away glow sticks in Halloween campaign



From left, Danny Daniel, Brand Manager, Docomo Pacific; Lt. Jin Yi, Guam Police Department; Marty Anderson, Sales & Marketing; Patience Artero, sales associate, both from JV International Safety Equipment Co.; Capt. Kim Santos; Capt. Steve Ignacio; Lt. Rhodell Sevilla; Lt. Steve Amaguin, all from Guam Police Department; Serge Alves, Retail Sales area manager; Allaine Gomez, retail territory manager, both from Mobil Oil Guam; and Ken Quintanilla, Public Relations coordinator, Docomo Pacific.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Glow stick recipients are highly encouraged to practice safe

TAMUNING, Guam—For the 11th year, Docomo Pacific will be having its "Be Seen, Be Safe" Halloween campaign on Guam and in the CNMI.

The annual campaign aims at keeping children safe this Halloween through the free distribution of 25,000 glow sticks starting Oct. 27.

The "Be Seen, Be Safe" campaign started in Guam in 2006 and on Saipan a few years later, together with the Guam Police Department, to ensure the safety of kids trickor-treating on Halloween night.

Docomo Pacific is partnering up with Calvo's Select-Care, Mobil Oil Guam, and JV International Safety Equipment to make the "Be Seen,

ditions of the economy. To register or for more information, visit www.lattetrainingacademy.com. (PR)

CNMI-OSHA outreach training on Saipan

The CNMI-OSHA Consultation Program will be conducting a free outreach training on Saipan today, Oct. 24, and on Thursday, Oct. 26, starting at 9am on both days, at the CNMI-OSHA Consultation Office training room.

Private sector employers serve your seats.

Outreach training for Rota and Tinian will be announced

This program is voluntary, is not required by OSHA, and does not meet the training requirements of OSHA stan-



From left, Lt. Jin Yi; Maj. Manny Chong; Lt. Rhodell Sevilla; Capt. Steve Ignacio; Capt. Darren Caldwell; Capt. Joe Carbullido; Lt. Steve Amaguin; and Capt. Kim Santos, all from the Guam Police Department.



From left, Michael Tagura, account executive-TV Advertising Sales, Docomo Pacific; Marty Anderson, Sales & Marketing; and Patience Artero, both from JV International Safety Equipment Co.

Be Safe" campaign grow and help thousands of children experience a safer Halloween. Distribution of glow sticks

will start on Friday, Oct. 27, to Tuesday, Oct. 31, while supplies last.

The following locations will distribute one glow stick, per child:

- All Docomo Pacific stores (in Guam and on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota);
- GPD precincts in Agat, Hagatna, Dededo, and Tamuning;
- Mobil service stations in Yona, Ysengsong, East Hagatna, and Agat;
- Calvo's SelectCare (in Guam and on Saipan); and
- JV International Safety Equipment Co.

The "Be Seen, Be Safe" Halloween campaign is a public-private partnership between Docomo Pacific and the Guam Police Department.

This program has given GPD a "front and center" opportunity to meet the children (and adults) who plan to enjoy Halloween in a safe and courteous manner by using the glow sticks while walking about in the dark. The glow sticks effectively alert motorists to trickor-treaters and other pedestrians in the area. When would-be



From left, Serge Alves, retail sales area manager; and Allaine Gomez, retail territory manager, both from Mobil Oil Guam.

trick-or-treaters visit precincts for their glow sticks, GPD personnel get the privilege of engaging in safe practices discussions with them and/or their adult supervisors.

"We can't thank Docomo Pacific enough for their persistence in helping us keep Guam's streets safe on the busiest night for pedestrian traffic and movement," said GPD chief JI Cruz

Thomas Higa, Docomo Pacific's chief commercial officer, said, "Halloween is an

exciting and festive time of the year for children of all ages. We're delighted to see the 'Be Seen, Be Safe' campaign grow over the years in Guam and the CNMI to help ensure kids are having fun while trick-ortreating and visible throughout the community.

As with any costume accessories, Docomo Pacific recommends that glow sticks be loosely fastened to a child's wrist, trick-or-treat bag or costume and not be hung around a child's neck. (PR)

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Free 'Personal Finance 101' seminar

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business seminar on Saipan, "Personal Finance 101," at the Commonwealth Development Authority boardroom this Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017, from 8:30am to 10am. It will be presented by Marvin Deleon Guerrero, BankPacific's assistant vice president and Saipan branch manager. This seminar is supported by the CNMI Department of Commerce and CDA. To register, contact the Small Business Development Center office at 664-3018 or register online at http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect. com/events. (PR)

Free 'Riddle of the **Exporter' training**

The Riddle of the Exporter Training being offered by the CNMI Small Business Development Center is now free, It will take place today, Oct. 24, from at 8am to 5pm, at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room. It will be presented by Elyse Eriksson, MBA, CGPA. This seminar is supported by the CNMI Department of Commerce and Commonwealth Development Authority. To register, contact the SBDC office at (670) 664-3018 or go to http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect. com/events. (PR)

Free entrepreneurship training

The Latte Training Academy is inviting aspiring entrepreneurs to attend their first free training on "Making Your ." to-Dream Into a Success, morrow, Oct. 25, at the Latte Training Academy Lab (third floor, Marianas Business Plaza). This training is being held as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Enterprise Grant program. Under this program, the Latte Training Academy, Inc. is providing specialized training and technical services to help new entrepreneurs navigate the CNMI's unique business landscape, as well as tailor their businesses to the specific con-

interested in learning about OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting requirements are invited to participate. Seats are limited, so call Elaine Pangelinan at 664-3156 or email to Elaine. pangelinan@gmail.com to re-

at a later date.

dards. (PR)

14 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

Millions return to poverty in Brazil, eroding 'boom' decade

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—When Leticia Miranda had a job selling newspapers on the streets, she earned about \$160 a month, just enough to pay for a tiny apartment she shared with her 8-year-old son in a poor neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro.

When she lost her job about six months ago amid Brazil's worst economic crisis in decades, Miranda had no choice but to move to an abandoned building where several hundred people were already living. All of her possessions—a bed, a fridge, a stove and some clothes—have been jammed into a small room that like all the others in the building has windows with no glass. Residents bathe in large garbage cans filled with water and do their best to live with the stench of mountains of trash and rummaging pigs in the center of the building.

"I want to leave here, but there is nowhere to go," said Miranda, 28, dressed in a bikini top, shorts and sandals to deal with the heat. "I'm applying for jobs and did two interviews. So far, nothing."

Between 2004 and 2014, tens of millions of Brazilians emerged from poverty and the country was often cited as an example for the world. High prices for the country's raw materials and newly developed oil resources helped finance social welfare programs that put money into the pockets of the poorest.

But that trend has been reversed over the last two years due to the deepest recession in Brazil's history and cuts to the subsidy programs, raising the specter that this continent-sized nation has lost its way in



In this Oct. 20, 2017 photo, Simone Batista, holding her baby Arthur, looks into the camera as tears roll down her cheeks while she recounts being cut from the "Bolsa Familia" government subsidy program for low-income people, at her shack home in the Jardim Gramacho slum of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

addressing wide inequalities that go back to colonial times.

"Many people who had risen out of poverty, and even those who had risen into the middle class, have fallen back," said Monica de Bolle, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics.

The World Bank estimates about 28.6 million Brazilians moved out of poverty between 2004 and 2014. But the bank estimates that from the start of 2016 to the end of this year, 2.5 million to 3.6 million will have fallen back below the

poverty line of 140 Brazilian reais per month, about \$44 at current exchange rates.

Those figures are likely underestimates, de Bolle said, and they don't capture the fact that many lower-middle class Brazilians who gained ground during the boom years have since slid back closer to poverty.

Economists say high unemployment and cuts to key social welfare programs could exacerbate the problems. In July, the last month for which data is available, unemployment was close to 13 percent, a huge increase from 4 percent at the end of 2004.

Lines of job-seekers stretching several blocks have become commonplace whenever any business announces openings. When a university in Rio this month offered low-skilled jobs paying \$400 a month, thousands showed up, including many who stood outside in the rain a day before the process began.

Meanwhile, budgetary pressures and the conservative policies of President Michel Temer are translating into cuts in social services. Among those hit is the Bolsa Familia—

Family Allowance—program that gives small subsidies each month to qualifying low-income people. It's credited with much of the poverty reduction during Brazil's boom decade.

Non-labor income, including social programs like Bolsa Familia, accounted for nearly 60 percent of the reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty during the boom decade, said Emmanuel Skoufias, a World Bank economist and one of the authors of the report on Brazil's "new poor."

Now, even as job losses have been pushing more people toward the program, fewer are being covered.

"Every day is a struggle to survive," 40-year-old Simone Batista said, tears streaming down her face as she recounted being cut from Bolsa Familia after her now 1-year-old was born. She wants to appeal, but doesn't have enough money to take buses to the administrative office downtown. Batista lives in Jardim Gramacho, a slum in northern Rio where she and hundreds of other destitute residents find food by rummaging through garbage illegally dumped in the area.

An Associated Press review of Bolsa Familia data found coverage declined 4 percentage points between May 2016, when Temer became acting president, and May of this year. Part of that may be due to a crackdown on alleged fraud that started late last year. Temer's administration announced it had found "irregularities" in the records of 1.1 million recipients about 8 percent of the 14 million people who receive the benefit. The infractions ranged from fraud to families that were earning above \$150 a month, the cutoff to receive the benefit.

Vegas rebranding shows difficulty of messaging after tragedy

LAS VEGAS (AP)—As volunteers streamed in to donate blood, doctors tended to the wounded and investigators scoured the scene of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, Las Vegas tourism officials moved quickly to protect their valuable franchise in a city where branding is everything.

"What happens here, stays here," the official slogan advertising agency R&R Partners developed in 2002, with a wink to naughty behavior, no longer seemed appropriate after the Oct. 1 attack that killed 58 people.

The city put that motto on hold, and the public agency charged with marketing Las Vegas went to work creating a new pitch for the tourist destination.

Initially, it unveiled mes-

sages that focused on how the community came together after the mass shooting, with average people joining first responders in helping victims.

A spot featuring a cityscape and the voice of Las Vegas native and retired tennis star Andre Agassi won praise for its sensitivity. "What is strength?" Agassi asks, playing off the #VegasStrong slogan that exploded on Twitter. "Strength is valet parkers who become medics, mothers who become emergency responders."

The response has been more mixed to the TV ad that followed, showing just how difficult it can be for organizations to hit the right tone after a deeply tragic event. It also underscores how a message that resonates with fans

can fall flat with others.

That spot—shown nationally starting late last week on networks including ESPN, Fox Sports, Bravo, TNT, The Weather Channel and Travel Channel—features real-life social media messages posted after the shooting.

"NO ONE and NOTH-ING will stop me from going to Las Vegas," reads the first message.

"Will be there in 5 days," writes another Las Vegas fan.

Paul A. Argenti, a Dartmouth College professor considered a pioneer in corporate communication, said he was taken aback by the advertisement, which he saw during a televised sports event.

"It's a little too tacky to continue to promote tourism" two weeks after the attack, he said. "It's really something for three

months down the line."

Argenti said organizations risk consequential mistakes if they don't carefully consider messaging after tragic events. British Petroleum, maligned for its clumsy handling of the Deep Horizon oil spill in 2010, continued ads touting its "green" record because they were already paid for, he said.

Instead of national advertising, Las Vegas should consider "hypertargeting" people most likely to return, focusing on fun and excitement while avoiding even subtle reminders of the shooting, said Eric Schiffer of ReputationManagementConsultants.com, which specializes in cleaning up reputations.

"People move away from pain much faster than they move toward pleasure," he noted.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Trial to begin against Philip Morris in smoker's death

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP)—A trial is set to begin in a law-suit against Philip Morris in connection with the lung cancer death of a Connecticut woman who smoked the company's Marlboro cigarettes. The trial over Vernon resident Jeanette Bifolck's death in 2000 is scheduled to begin Monday in federal court in Bridgeport. Bifolck's husband, Vincent Bifolck, filed a wrongful death lawsuit in 2006 against Philip Morris, a subsidiary of Richmond, Virginia-based Altria Group Inc. Jeanette Bifolck died after having smoked Marlboro and Marlboro Lights since the early 1970s. She was 42 years old. The lawsuit cites the Connecticut Product Liability Act and alleges Philip Morris cigarettes were "unreasonably" dangerous to the people smoking them. Philip Morris denies wrongdoing. Among its defenses is that Jeanette Bifolck chose to smoke.

Fidelity has staff meeting on sex harassment after 2 leave

WASHINGTON (AP)—The manager of Fidelity Investments' stock-picking unit held an emergency meeting last week to reiterate the firm's policies against sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior, a person familiar with the matter said. The meeting followed the departure of two portfolio managers earlier this month after one was accused of sexual harassment and the other of making inappropriate comments, the person said. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue publicly. The meeting and allegations were previously reported by the Wall Street Journal. "Fidelity's policies specifically prohibit harassment in any form," company spokesman Vincent Loporchio said. "When allegations of these sorts are brought to our attention, we investigate them immediately and take prompt and appropriate action."

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 15

Nation

Trump urges House GOP to move quickly on budget, tax cuts

WASHINGTON, (AP)—President Donald Trump warned House Republicans on Sunday that 2018 would be a political failure for the GOP and disappointment for the nation if they fail on tax overhaul.

A GOP aide familiar with the conversation said Trump told the lawmakers again and again that the party would have a steep price to pay in next year's midterm elections if they failed to pass his plan. It would slash the corporate tax rate to 20 percent and double the standard deduction used by most average Americans.

The president also said that, beyond the looming elections, his plan was the right thing to do for the country, the person said.

Trump and Vice President Mike Pence both joined the House GOP conference call in which Trump called on members to adopt the budget passed by the Senate this week, so that they can move on to passing his tax reform plan

Trump told the members they were on the verge of doing something historic by passing the tax cuts, according to one Republican official. That official, like others, spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss publicly what was intended as a private update for members.

The Senate last week passed a budget that includes rules that



will allow Republicans to get tax legislation through the Senate without Democratic votes and without fear of a Democratic filibuster. The House had passed a different budget, but House Republicans signaled Friday they would simply accept the Senate plan to avoid any potential delay on the tax measure.

Republicans are desperate to rack up a legislative win after a series of embarrassing failures that have come despite the fact that the party controls both chambers of Congress and the White House. At the top of the list: their stalled attempts to pass legislation repealing and

replacing "Obamacare." If tax reform doesn't pass, many in the party fear an all-out revolt in 2018

On the call, House Speaker Paul Ryan told members he hoped to pass a revised Senate budget bill this week to increase the chances that tax reform can be enacted by the end of the year.

The leaders emphasized the need for the House to pass the Senate budget to avoid negotiations between the two chambers that could slow the process, said two lawmakers on the call, who also spoke on condition of anonymity. They said the goal is for House passage

of the budget this week, putting the House on track to approve a tax bill by Thanksgiving.

White House budget director Mick Mulvaney, had told Fox News Sunday earlier Sunday that the House was working "very quickly to accept the Senate amendments," and said the plan "may save as many as 10 or 12 legislative days, which is a big deal."

Trump, who spent much of the weekend at his golf course in Virginia, will also work to rally support for the plan on the Hill Tuesday at a lunch with Senate Republicans.

But as the focus turns to taxes, Congress continues to strug-

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Sunday he'd be willing to bring bipartisan health care legislation to the floor—if Trump makes clear he supports it. A proposal by two senators - Republican Lamar Alexander of Tennessee and Democrat Patty Murray of Washington - would extend for two years federal insurance payments that Trump has blocked, in an effort to stabilize insurance markets. But Trump has offered mixed signals, alternately praising and condemning the effort—confusing Democrats and Republicans alike.

gle with health care legislation.

Asked whether he would

bring the bill to the floor, Mc-Connell said on CNN's "State of the Union" that he was waiting "to hear from President Trump what kind of health care bill he might sign."

"If there's a need for some kind of interim step here to stabilize the market, we need a bill the president will actually sign. And I'm not certain yet what the president is looking for here, but I will be happy to bring a bill to the floor if I know President Trump would sign it," the Republican said. He added of Trump: "I think he hasn't made a final decision."

The plan unveiled last week likely has 60 votes in the Senate, mostly from Democrats, and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer on Sunday urged McConnell to bring it to the floor "immediately, this week."

"This is a good compromise," Schumer said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Trump at first suggested he supported the temporary fix as he continues to hold out hope for repeal-and-replace legislation. But White House officials said later that Trump would only sign an interim bill that lifted the tax penalties that Obama's health care law imposed on people who don't buy coverage and employers who don't offer plans to employees, among other demands Senate Democrat say are non-starters.

Dramatic sentencing hearing expected in Bergdahl case

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—The fate of Bowe Bergdahl—the Army sergeant who pleaded guilty to endangering his comrades by leaving his post in 2009 in Afghanistan—now rests in the hands of a judge.

A sentencing hearing for Bergdahl starts Monday at Fort Bragg and is expected to feature dramatic testimony about soldiers and a Navy SEAL badly hurt while they searched for the missing Bergdahl, who was held captive for five years by Taliban allies after leaving his post. Bergdahl faces up to life in prison on charges of desertion and misbehavior before the enemy after pleading guilty to the charges last week.

Bergdahl made his plea without striking a deal with prosecutors for a lesser punishment, opting instead for a move known as a "naked plea," in hopes of leniency from the judge. The plea, legal experts say, may be a sign that the evidence against Bergdahl was strong.

Eric Carpenter, a former Army lawyer who teaches law at Florida International University, said a naked plea can be advantageous by allowing the defense to refrain from agreeing to certain facts that it might otherwise have to concede to under a plea agreement.

Greg Rinckey, a former Army prosecutor and defense attorney now in private practice, said such a plea is risky.

"You don't plead someone out naked without weighing those risks," Rinckey said.

The judge, Army Col. Jeffery Nance, will also have to resolve last-minute arguments by defense attorneys that President Donald Trump has unfairly swayed the courtmartial with new comments about the highly politicized case. During the presidential campaign, Trump repeatedly called Bergdahl a "traitor." The defense argues that remarks made by Trump as late as last week show that he harbors the same view now that he is commander in chief. A White House statement on Friday said, while not mentioning Bergdahl by name,

that all military personnel in the justice process should use their independent judgment and that any case should be "resolved on its own facts."

Bergdahl's lawyers are hoping that the five years that he spent as a Taliban captive will win him some leniency from the judge. Bergdahl, 31, has said he was caged, kept in darkness and beaten. He said he tried to escape more than a dozen times.

The plea came after several pretrial rulings against the defense. Perhaps most significant was the judge's decision in June to allow evidence of the searchers' wounds at sentencing. The judge ruled that a Navy SEAL and an Army National Guard sergeant wouldn't have wound up in separate firefights that left them wounded if they hadn't been searching for Bergdahl.

While calling the wounded men "heroes," Bergdahl's lawyers have argued their client can't be blamed for a long chain of events that included decisions by others on the searches.

At his plea hearing, Bergahl himself said he now understands his disappearance triggered the missions, calling his actions "very inexcusable."

President Barack Obama brought Bergdahl home in 2014 in a swap for five Taliban prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, leading to criticism by Republicans including Trump.

Bergdahl has said he walked away from his remote post with the intention of reaching other commanders and drawing attention to what he saw as problems with his unit.

One of the injured soldiers who could testify, former Army Cpl. Jonathan Morita, said in a phone interview after the plea hearing that he wasn't sure whether to feel happy about Bergdahl's admission of guilt.

"It's good that he said it. But did he really mean it, or did the defense tell him to say it?" said Morita, who was injured after a rocket-propelled grenade struck his rifle. The grenade didn't explode, but it shattered the bones in his hand.

FBI couldn't access nearly 7K devices because of encryption

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— The FBI hasn't been able to retrieve data from more than half of the mobile devices it tried to access in less than a year, FBI Director Christopher Wray said Sunday, turning up the heat on a debate between technology companies and law enforcement officials trying to recover encrypted

communications.

In the first 11 months of the fiscal year, federal agents were unable to access the content of more than 6,900 mobile devices, Wray said in a speech at the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference in Philadelphia.

"To put it mildly, this is a huge, huge problem," Wray said. "It impacts investigations across the board—narcotics, human trafficking, counterterrorism, counterintelligence, gangs, organized crime,

child exploitation."

The FBI and other law enforcement officials have long complained about being unable to unlock and recover evidence from cellphones and other devices seized from suspects even if they have a warrant, while technology companies have insisted they must protect customers' digital privacy.

The long-simmering debate was on display in 2016, when the Justice Department tried to force Apple to unlock an encrypted cellphone used by a gunman in a terrorist attack in San Bernardino, California. The department eventually relented after the FBI said it paid an unidentified vendor who provided a tool to unlock the phone and no longer needed Apple's assistance, avoiding a court showdown.

16 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

PH declares militants in Marawi 'finished'

CLARK, Philippines (AP)— Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana declared the last of the pro-Islamic State group militants in southern Marawi city "finished" Monday, exactly five months after the start of the siege that sparked fears of the group gaining a foothold in Southeast Asia.

Speaking at an annual meeting of Southeast Asian defense ministers, Lorenzana told reporters that troops recovered 42 bodies of the last group of militants.

"Those are the last group of stragglers of Mautes and they were caught in one building so there was a firefight, so they were finished." he said.

Two security officials had told The Associated Press earlier Monday that troops had found the bodies after capturing the building where the militants made their final stand.

Lorenzana said the last hostages the militants had been holding were recovered earlier. "There are no more militants inside Marawi City," he said.

The siege had sparked fears the Islamic State group would influence and strengthen local militancies while losing ground in Syria and Iraq. The defeat of the IS-linked uprising and the deaths of its leaders have been a relief to the region.

Fighting terrorism is high on the agenda of the Southeast Asian defense ministers' meeting at the Clark freeport north of Manila. As the meetings opened, the head of the Brunei delegation expressed



Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, left, together with Armed Forces Chief Gen. Eduardo Ano, right, reads a statement announcing the Philippine troops have captured a building where pro-Islamic State group militants made their final stand in southern Marawi city and found bodies of suspected gunmen inside Monday, Oct. 23, 2017 at the ongoing ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting in Clark, Pampanga province north of Manila, Philippines.

condolences for the loss of lives in Marawi but congratulated the Philippines for being able to liberate the city.

Hundreds of militants, many waving Islamic State groupstyle black flags, launched the siege on May 23 in Marawi, a bastion of Islamic faith in the south of the largely Roman Catholic Philippines, by seizing the lakeside city's central business district and outlying communities. They ransacked

gun stores, looted houses and smashed statues in a Roman Catholic cathedral, according to the military.

The fighting has left at least 1,131 people dead, including 919 militants and 165 soldiers and police. At least 1,780 of the hostages seized by the militants, including a Roman Catholic priest, were rescued. The final group of 20 captives were freed overnight, Army Col. Romeo Brawner said at a banks and shops, including news conference Sunday. That

dents, erupted as the Philip-**ASIAN BRIEFS**

left the gunmen with none of

the hostages they had used

as human shields to slow the

The disastrous uprising,

which has displaced hundreds

of thousands of Marawi resi-

military advance for months.

Typhoon Lan sweeps across Japan; 2 reported dead

pines was hosting annual

summit meetings of the As-

sociation of Southeast Asian

Nations this year, along with

the 10-nation bloc's Asian

and Western counterparts,

including the United States

and Australia. The two gov-

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful typhoon caused flooding and landslides along the Pacific coast of Japan, killing at least two people before heading out to sea Monday. Typhoon Lan made landfall in central Japan around 3 a.m. Monday and swept across Tokyo before heading out to sea several hours later off northeastern Japan. The body of a 70-year-old man whose boat developed engine trouble was found on a beach after he dove into the sea to try to grab a rope from another vessel, Kyodo News service reported. It also said a passer-by was killed when high winds brought down scaffolding at a construction site in Fukuoka city in southern Japan. Heavy rains inundated neighborhoods in Wakayama prefecture, south of Osaka. Japanese broadcaster NHK reported that an 82-yearold man was found unconscious in the morning after a mudslide hit his house overnight in Wakayama's Kinokawa city. The storm delayed vote counting in Wakayama and other parts of western Japan for national elections Sunday.

India says Myanmar must take back Rohingya Muslims

Hapilon, who is listed among the FBI's most-wanted terror suspects in the world, and Omarkhayam Maute. Following their deaths, President Rodrigo Duterte traveled near the main scene of battle and declared Marawi had been essentially liberated.

ernments have deployed sur-

veillance aircraft and drones

to help Filipino troops rout

Last week, troops killed the

final two surviving leaders of

the siege, including Isnilon

the Marawi militants.

DNA tests done in the United States requested by the Philippine military have confirmed the death of Hapilon, according to the U.S. Embassy in Manila. Washington has offered a bounty of up to \$5 million for Hapilon, who had been blamed for kidnappings for ransom of American nationals and other terrorist attacks.

Among the foreign militants believed to be with the remaining gunmen in Marawi were Malaysian militant Amin Baco and an Indonesian known only as Qayyim. Both have plotted attacks and provided combat training to local militants for years but have eluded capture in the south.

Lorenzana said Monday the identities of the final 42 bodies had not been determined and some were beyond recognition.

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—India's foreign minister told Bangladesh's government that Myanmar must take back Rohingya Muslims to resolve one of Asia's largest refugee crises in decades, the government said. Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj conveyed her message Sunday during a meeting with Bangladeshi

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who ordered border guards and her administration to allow the Rohingya to cross the border and shelter in makeshift camps in the coastal district of Cox's Bazar. Nearly 600,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled Myanmar's Rakhine state since Aug. 25 to escape persecution that the United Nations has called ethnic cleansing. The United News of Bangladesh agency reported that Swaraj said, "Myanmar must take back their nationals ... this is a big burden for Bangladesh. How long will Bangladesh bear it? There should be a permanent solution to this crisis."

Toll rises in Malaysian landslide; 11 dead mostly foreigners

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Rescue workers have located two more bodies buried by a landslide in a construction site in northern Malaysia, bringing the death toll to 11. Fire and rescue official Mohamad Rizuan Ramli said the body of a Bangladeshi was retrieved early Monday but rescuers were still trying to bring out the body of a Malaysian trapped deep under the rubble. A hillside crashed down early Saturday at the site where two 49-story condominiums are being built in northern Penang state, a popular tourist destination. Three of the 14 workers buried by the landslide survived. The other victims were from China, Pakistan, Indonesia, Myanmar and Bangladesh. The condominium project is now under scrutiny after authorities said it didn't obtain government approval as it was too close to a granite quarry.

Japanese PM Abe wins big in national elections

(AP)—Japan's **TOKYO** leader has scored a major victory in national elections that returned his ruling coalition to power in decisive fashion.

Japanese media said Monday that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and a small coalition partner had together secured at least 312 seats in the 465-seat lower house of parliament, passing the 310-barrier for a two-thirds majority. Four seats remained undecided.

The victory boosts Abe's chances of winning another three-year term next September as leader of the Liberal Democratic Party. That could extend his premiership to 2021, giving him more time to try to win a reluctant public over to his longtime goal of revising Japan's pacifist constitution.

In the immediate term, the

win likely means a continuation of the policies Abe has pursued since he took office in December 2012—a hard line on North Korea, close ties with Washington, including defense, as well as a super-loose monetary policy and push for nuclear energy. Stocks rose in Tokyo on Monday morning.

Abe's ruling coalition already has a two-thirds majority in the less powerful upper house. Having a so-called supermajority in both houses gives them virtually a free hand to push even divisive policies and legislation.

Abe said the results indicate that voters support his policies and want to see his political leadership continue.

"I think the results reflected the voters' preference for a solid political foundation and their expectations for us to push polices forward and achieve results," Abe told NHK.

With the win, Abe has bounced back from the summer, when his support ratings plunged to 30 percent after accusations of government favoritism to people connected to him. For the first time since he took office nearly five years ago, he appeared vulnerable as both party leader and prime minister.

The ruling coalition's victory, though, reflects as much the lack of viable alternatives as support for Abe, a fact that he seemed to acknowledge in post-election comments. Turnout was just 54 percent, as typhoon rains lashed much of the country.

"I will humbly face the victory and continue to work humbly and sincerely," he told NHK, noting lingering public distrust over the scandals.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 **17**

World

US-backed forces take Syria's largest oil field from IS

BEIRUT (AP)—U.S.-backed fighters captured Syria's largest oil field from the Islamic State group Sunday, marking a major advance against the extremists in an area coveted by pro-government forces.

With IS in retreat, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces and the Syrian government have been in a race to secure parts of the oil-rich Deir el-Zour province along the border with Iraq.

The Al-Omar oil field was a major source of income for the militant group and is considered one Syria's most productive. The condition of the field, which has been controlled by IS for three years, was not clear following intense coalition and Russian airstrikes.

The SDF, with air support from the U.S.-led coalition, said it captured the field in a "swift and wide military operation." It said some militants have taken cover in oil company houses nearby, where clashes are underway. The U.S.-led coalition confirmed the SDF had retaken the oil field.

After coming under heavy fire from IS, pro-government forces retreated from the area around Al-Omar field, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The SDF said government forces were 3 kilometers (2 miles) away from the fields.



This July 30, 2017 photo, shows an oil field controlled by the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), in Rmeilan, Hassakeh province, northeast Syria.

is unknown.

Syrian troops, backed by Russian warplanes and Iranian-sponsored militias, have retaken nearly all of the provincial capital of Deir el-Zour, as well as the town of Mayadeen, another IS stronghold, which is across the Euphrates River from the Al-Omar field.

The SDF focused their op-

erations in rural Deir el-Zour on the eastern side of the river, and have already seized a major natural gas field and other smaller oil fields.

IS captured Al-Omar in 2014, when the group swept across large areas in Syria and neighboring Iraq. At the time, the field was estimated

supply among its neighbors after Iraq. The oil industry was a pillar of the Syrian economy

to produce around 9,000 bar-

rels a day. Its current potential

Syria had proven oil re-

serves of 2.5 billion barrels as

of 2015, giving it the largest

before the conflict in 2011. As IS advanced in Syria, it seized control of most of Syria's oil fields and made petroleum a major earner for the militant group, which sold it on the black market to other insurgents and the Syrian government.

Since the coalition began operations against IS in 2014, the militants' oil production has been reduced from a peak of approximately \$50 million per month to currently less than \$4 million, the coalition said in a statement to The Associated Press.

The government lost the al-Omar field to other insurgents

Al-Manar TV, operated by Lebanon's Hezbollah, said the fight for Al-Omar was still underway and denied the SDF's claim to have captured it. The militant group fights alongside Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces.

The official Syrian news agency said troops regained full control of Khosham, a town on the eastern side of the Euphrates River that they lost a day earlier to IS. The Observatory for Human Rights said parts of the town remain contested.

It's not clear how Syrian troops will respond to the SDF's seizure of Al-Omar. Assad has vowed to eventually bring all of Syria back under government control.

The two sides have accused each other of firing on their forces in Deir el-Zour province, but a rare face-toface meeting of senior U.S. and Russian military officers last month appeared to have calmed tensions.

Syria observers have said the race between the USbacked fighters and the Russian- and Iranian-backed Syrian government forces is likely to be a source of direct confrontation in the absence of a political agreement.

Italy's 2 richest regions claim victory in autonomy votes

MILAN (AP)—The presidents of Italy's wealthy northern regions of Veneto and Lombardy on Sunday claimed victory in autonomy referendums that seek to grab additional powers and tax revenue from Rome, riding a global tide of self-determination that has swamped Spain's Catalonia region.

The votes were nonbinding, but the leaders of the neighboring regions hope to leverage strong turnout in talks with Italy's center-left government. As leading members of the anti-migrant, anti-EU Northern League, they want to keep more tax revenue and have autonomy over such policy areas as immigration, security, education and environment.

"This is the big bang of institutional reform," Veneto President Luca Zaia said in Venice. "We are convinced, and I hope Rome understands, that this is not the wish of a political party. These are the wishes of the people."

In Milan, his counterpart in Lombardy, Roberto Maroni, said that with the votes, the two regions "can unify our

forces so we can do the battle of the century."

The two leaders say they will meet with their regional councils to finalize their requests before going to Rome to meet with Premier Paolo Gentiloni.

Unlike in Catalonia, the referendums do not seek independence and were approved by Italy's constitutional court. Still, the autonomy drive is a powerful threat to Rome's authority. Together, Veneto and Lombardy account for 30 percent of Italy's GDP and nearly one-quarter of the nation's electorate.

Maroni said an overwhelming 95 percent of his region's vote went to "yes," with turnout above 40 percent of Lombardy's 8 million voters. That far exceeded the bar for success that he set at 34 percent, which was the turnout for a national referendum on constitutional reform in 2001.

Independence-minded Veneto easily met a turnout threshold to validate the vote set by Zaia, with some 60 percent of the region's 4 million voters casting ballots.

According to early returns, 98 percent voted "yes."

The Democratic Party, which leads the national government in Rome, had criticized the referendums, saying the non-binding votes carried no legal weight, were not needed to trigger autonomy negotiations and were a costly waste of resources.

Such arguments played into the hands of the "yes" campaigners, who consider those put-downs to be part of the anti-democratic, centrist decision-making in Rome. Those sentiments have been echoed in the Catalan independence drive in Spain, in the U.S. election of Donald Trump as president and in Britain's vote to leave the 28-nation European Union.

The victory raises the Northern League's profile ahead of national elections next year. But it also has the power to create a wedge between the rich north and the poor south just as Northern League leader Matteo Salvini, who supports autonomy, has pushed for a more national profile for the once-northern party.

World Health Organization revokes appointment of Mugabe JOHANNESBURG (AP)— The head of the World Health Organization revoked his appointment of Zimbabwe's

President Robert Mugabe as a "goodwill ambassador" on Sunday after the choice drew widespread outrage and criticism. Zimbabwe's government said it respected the turnabout and that the U.N. health agency "benefited tremen-

dously" from the attention.

director-general Tedros Ghebreyesus last week told a conference in Uruguay on non-communicable diseases that Mugabe, who was present, had agreed to be a "goodwill ambassador" on the issue.

After the outcry by international leaders and health experts, Tedros said in a statement that he had reflected and decided to change his mind, calling it in the best interests of the U.N. health agency. Tedros said he had consulted with the Zimbabwe government about his decision.

The 93-year-old Mugabe, the world's oldest head of state, has long been criticized at home for going overseas for medical treatment as Zimbabwe's once-prosperous economy falls apart and the country's health care system deteriorates. Mugabe also faces U.S. sanctions over his government's human rights abuses.

The United States had said the appointment of Mugabe by WHO's first African leader "clearly contradicts the United Nations ideals of respect for human rights and human dignity."

Two dozen organizations-including the World Heart Federation and Cancer Research U.K.—released a statement slamming the appointment, saying health officials were "shocked and deeply concerned." The groups said they had raised their concerns with Tedros on the sidelines of the Uruguay conference, to no avail.

Zimbabwe's government said it respected Tedros' decision to withdraw Mugabe's appointment.

Foreign Affairs Minister Walter Mzembi told state broadcaster ZBC that the U.N. health agency "benefited tremendously" from the original decision to name Mugabe to the post because of the global attention that resulted.

"On a name-recognition scale this name beats them all, but it is our business to protect its brand equity from unnecessary besmirching," Mzembi said. "So on the balance, it is wiser to let go."

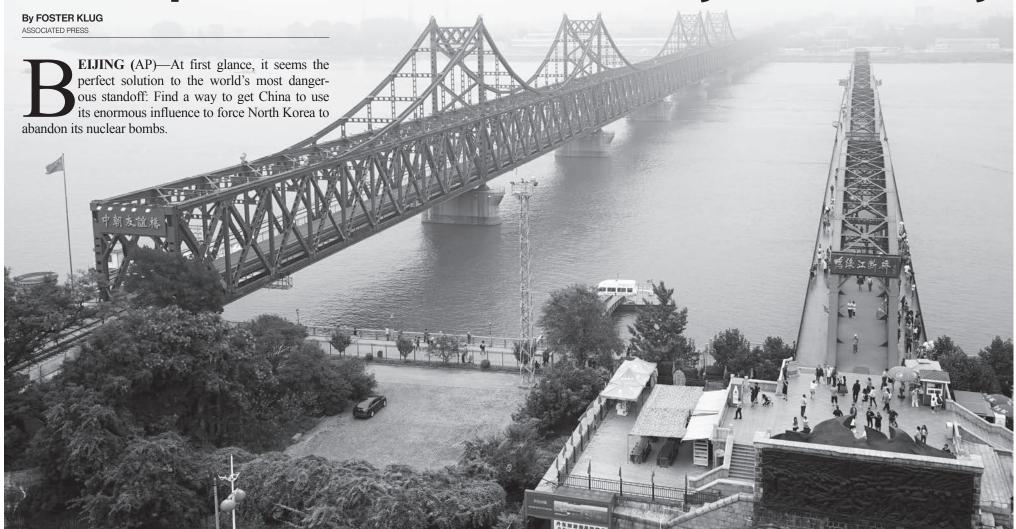
The heads of U.N. agencies and the U.N. secretary-general typically choose celebrities and other prominent people as ambassadors to draw attention to global issues of concern, such as refugees (Angelina Jolie) and education (Malala Yousafzai). The choices are not subject to approval.

The ambassadors hold little actual power. They also can be fired. The comic book heroine Wonder Woman was removed from her honorary U.N. ambassador job in December following protests that a white, skimpily dressed American prone to violence wasn't the best role model for girls.

18 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Focus

China's power over Nokor? More myth than reality



In this Sept. 9, 2017, file photo, visitors walk across the Yalu River Broken Bridge, right, next to the Friendship Bridge connecting China and North Korea in Dandong in northeastern China's Liaoning province. China and North Korea share a long border, history and ideology, but the notion that Beijing can use its influence to force Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear bombs runs against a complicated reality. Their relationship is less about friendship or political bonds than a deep and mutually uneasy dependency.

The countries, after all, share a long, porous border, several millennia of history and deep ideological roots. Tens, and possibly hundreds, of thousands of Chinese soldiers, including Mao Zedong's son, died to save North Korea from obliteration during the Korean War, and China is essentially Pyongyang's economic lifeline, responsible for most of its trade and oil.

The notion of Chinese power over the North - that the countries are as "close as lips and teeth," according to a cliche recorded in the 3rd century - is so tantalizing that Donald Trump has spent a good part of his young presidency playing it up.

The reality, however, is that the complicated, often exasperating, relationship is less about friendship or political bonds than a deep and mutually uneasy dependency. Nominally allies, the neighbors operate in a near constant state of tension, a mix of ancient distrust and dislike and the grating knowledge that they are inextricably tangled up with each other, however much they might chafe against it.

This matters because if China is not the solution to the nuclear crisis, then outsiders long sold on the idea must recalibrate their efforts as North Korea approaches a viable arsenal of nucleartipped missiles capable of reaching the U.S. mainland, something the CIA chief this week estimated as only a matter of months away.

"The North Koreans have always driven China crazy," says John Delury, an expert on both countries at Seoul's Yonsei University, "and, for their part, the North Koreans have always felt betrayed by China. But both sides need each other in elemental ways."

THE VIEW FROM CHINA

One clue about how Chinese see the North can be seen in two widespread nicknames for the overweight, third-generation North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un: Kim Fatty The Third and Kim Fat Fat Fat.

As China rises as an economic, military and diplomatic heavyweight whose reach extends from the Americas to Asia, many here resent being dragged down by an impoverished, stubborn, Third World dictatorship that allows its people to go hungry while its leader lives in luxury and expands a nuclear arsenal that could lead to war with Washington.

North Korean missile tests hurt trade and tourism and strengthen the U.S. presence in a region that China believes it should dominate. North Korean nuclear tests set off earthquakes near the Chinese border and raise fears of radioactive contamination.

There's also scorn for the North's brutal, nepotistic brand of socialism, and displeasure that North Korean aggression led South Korea to allow on its territory a U.S. anti-missile system that Beijing says can be used to spy on its operations.

This growing disdain is reflected in China's willingness to permit criticism of the North in the press, and to allow tougher sanctions at the U.N. Beijing has suspended coal, iron ore, seafood and textiles from the North.

Although North Korea takes pride in its ability to absorb pain, be it war, famine, sanctions or condemnation, China's tougher line will rob Pyongyang of key sources of foreign currency.

Still, nothing China has done offsets its underlying fear that too much external pressure could collapse the government in Pyongyang. The nightmare scenario for Beijing is North Korean refugees flooding into its northeast after Seoul takes power in Pyongyang and U.S. and South Korean troops occupy lands that were once considered a buffer zone.

"It is true that China loathes

North Korea and vice versa - at the societal level, the leadership level and the governmental level," Van Jackson, a North Korea specialist and lecturer at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand, wrote earlier this year. "But China's 'emotions' toward North Korea don't drive its policy."

Beijing has also argued that it has less power over North Korea than people think. Some observers question whether China could force a change in the North, short of military intervention, even if it wanted to.

North Korea relies on China for most of its oil, and outsiders have long argued that the best way to cripple the North's economy and force it to submit would be to persuade Beijing to cut that flow.

But even this may not work.
North Korea gets its oil
from China out of convenience, not necessity, according to Pierre Noel, an
energy security specialist at
the International Institute for
Strategic Studies think tank.

"Would it be good news for North Korea if the oil stopped flowing? No. Is it likely to cripple the economy and force the government to change course on their foremost strategic priority? No. There are ample hydrocarbons in North Korea to substitute for those it imports from China."

THE VIEW FROM NORTH KOREA

One way to gauge Pyongyang's feelings for Beijing is to consider that Kim Jong Un has yet to visit his only major ally, a country that accounts for 90 percent of North Korean trade, since taking power in December 2011.

His late father, Kim Jong II, hated to travel but went to China eight times during his rule, and Chinese leaders reciprocated with trips to Pyongyang.

Since communication at the highest levels has now virtually disappeared, Kim Jong Un feels little need to pay attention when Beijing calls on him to stop testing nukes and missiles.

In fact, North Korea has seemingly sought to humiliate Beijing by timing some of its missile tests for major global summits in China.

Last month, North Korean state media accused Chinese state-controlled media of "going under the armpit of the U.S." by criticizing Pyongyang. In May, the North vowed to "never beg for the maintenance of friendship with China (or risk North Korea's) nuclear program which is as precious as its own life, no matter how valuable the friendship is."

It can be argued that the North Korea-China relationship never really recovered from Beijing's decision in 1992 to establish formal diplomatic relations with Seoul.

But a big part of North Korea's "profound sense of mistrust" and "long-term effort to resist China's influence" stems from the 1950-53 Korean War, according to James Person, a Korea expert at the Wilson Center think tank in Washington. The war is often seen as the backbone of the countries' alliance, he said, but the North blamed the failure to conquer the South on Beijing, which had seized control of field operations after the near-annihilation of North Korean forces.

In the 1970s, with North Korea pushing the United States for a peace treaty to replace the Korean War cease-fire that continues to-day, Washington chose to work through China.

By so doing, U.S. officials failed to see the limits of Chinese influence in the North, Person wrote last month on the 38 North website.

"Yet, nearly four decades later, asking China to solve the North Korean problem remains Washington's default policy for dealing with Pyongyang." This, he said, is "a recipe for continued failure."

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

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Overdrive

AUTOREVIEW: A brawny beast with a gentle side

By BARRY SPYKER

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

e get it. Ford's gargantuan F-150 Raptor is big and mean and can scare off anything that gets in its way. With its muscular haunches and massive grille, it'll spook anyone who sees it in their rear-view mirror.

And, with its steel-reinforced frame, jacked-up suspension and beefy all-terrain tires, it can crawl over boulders, dive over desert dunes—at highway speeds—and plow through sloshy mud, deep ruts and gravel.

The Raptor is a tough cookie. But, if there's no sand dune on your commute, the 2017 Raptor is shockingly well-behaved on pavement, too, and a kick to drive. The 5,700-pound beast is fast, surging to 60 mph in a mere 5.3 seconds. And it has a features list worthy of a luxury vehicle.

Returning after a two-year hiatus, the Raptor is a leaner machine, dropping 500 pounds thanks to an aluminum body. But it's still a mean machine: A new high-output, twin-turbo 3.5-liter V-6 Eco-Boost engine is actually more powerful than the last generation's 6.2-liter V-8, churning up 450 horsepower and 510 pound-feet of torque.

Going full-throttle is a blast as the 10-speed transmission ticks through the gears — you can count them on the instrument panel — while Raptor leaves a rumbling note through dual exhausts. The transmission is a little jerky around town, but manual shifters offer an alternative.

Ride quality is surprisingly comfortable on the asphalt, absorbing bumps and dips around town and offering a quiet highway drive. Don't be scared off by the beefy all-terrain BF Goodrich KO2 tires, designed exclusively for the Raptor's off-road escapades. They're fine on the

In fact, folks using the Raptor every day for commutes, construction work or boat towing will find this giant is quite civilized, even luxurious by truck standards. It features a power tailgate and also offers a step that comes out from below it for an easier step up into the cargo bed. The step even has a fold-up railing for safety.

Raptor has blind-spot monitoring for not only the truck but a trailer, too. And, here's a pampering feature: With the turn of a knob on the dash, the truck can back a boat trailer down a ramp all by itself. It's like having your own valet.

Inside, seats are firm and well-bolstered, can be trimmed in leather, and are heated and cooled. The dash

rely is broad but its controls are within easy reach, many contained on Raptor's exclusive center console.

And Ford's Sync3 infotainment system offers voice-activated navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto as part of a \$9,345 luxury package. A technology package (\$1,950) includes adaptive cruise control, forward-collision prevention and lanekeep assist. Other options include exterior graphics and

interior accent packages.

As accommodating as the Raptor is, it has its weaknesses. With a 7-foot-wide body, it's challenging on narrow city streets and parking lots, though a 360-degree camera helps. The new-for-2017 full-size SuperCrew version — nearly a foot longer — makes matters even worse. Another predictable weakness concerns the mileage: Expect 15 mpg around town, just 18 on the highway.

Make no mistake: Raptor is built for, and most appreciated, off the road. A new all-terrain system offers six modes to optimize driving dynamics for harsh conditions. Among them are Street, Mud, Sand and one called Baja for extreme desert-racing.

Ford installed new Fox Racing shocks for 2017 and a new 4-wheel-drive system, too. A Torsen front differential transfers torque to the stable wheel before slippage

occurs, Ford says, to provide stronger grip to the front end. Huge skid plates protect the undercarriage.

No question, the Raptor is tough and capable and without a single foe, really. Try and find another truck with this kind of brawn, speed and comfort. And, if you're thinking about the dunes, Ford offers a free Raptor Assault Program out West with every truck sold. Hotel and airfare are on you.



MOTORMOUTH: Changing brake fluid more important than blinker fluid

By BOB WEBER CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Q: The maintenance guide in my 2015 Nissan Rogue calls for a brake fluid change at 10,000 miles under extreme conditions. Nissan considers expressway driving in Chicago extreme. I would say dangerous, but not extreme. Anyway, when I asked if not having it changed would void the warranty, the technician evaded answering. Is this just a way for the dealer to get money because of the free oil change and tire rotation service? What are they installing at the factory, milk?

- M.M., Chicago

A: Milk may do a body good, but makes a lousy hydraulic fluid for your brakes. If your owner's manual states

that the brake fluid should be changed, change it. If you don't want to give your money to the dealer, go somewhere else, but make sure you keep the receipt. It will be your proof should a warranty dispute arise.

Q: I have a 2013 Nissan Rogue. Starting at about 25,000 miles (it has **40,000)**, the car shakes when the air conditioning is on and I come to a complete stop. I asked the dealer and they said the idle needed to be adjusted. When that didn't work I received several answers such as Rogues are known for shaking with the air on, the hoses need to be cleaned out, or there is nothing I can do. Do you know what this could possibly be shaking from?

- S.W., Pembroke Pines, Fla.

A: When the A/C compressor runs, it needs some power from the engine. To maintain a smooth idle, the engine speed must be increased. That is the job of the fast idle control device motor. Think of it as a computer-controlled throttle kicker. If it fails, the idle will be too low and the engine will shake. Should there be any bad motor mounts, the problem will be exacerbated.

exacerbated.

Q: Somebody recently wrote complaining about loud blinkers. Are you kidding me? They should all be loud, or maybe they should get progressively louder the longer they are on. Maybe we wouldn't have so many people driving for miles with their turn signal on.

- R.L., St. Charles, Ill.

A: Good point, but what

about the people whose blinkers don't blink? Some folks claim that turn signals must be an extra cost option on BMWs. We can only advise that you check your blinker fluid often. (Editor's note: There is no such thing as blinker fluid.)

Q: Got a laugh from the question about the obnoxious noise level of the Buick blinkers. I have an Enclave and took it first to Best Buy where an audio tech removed the panel covering the speakers and stuck some gum over it. That lasted about three years and recently took it to my mechanic where he put some gauze over speaker.

– D.R., Chicago

A: We'll pass this tip along to the folks at Wrigley. We have a hunch Doublemint may be a good choice.

NUTS & BOLTS

2017 Ford F-150 Raptor ■ Base Price: \$48.325

- As tested: \$60,490 with Luxury package (\$9,345), Technology package (\$1,950), bedliner and tailgate step
- What's all the excitement about? The Raptor returns with more power, amazing speed and a SuperCrew version
- Powertrain: 3.5-liter twin-turbo V-6 with 450 horsepower and 510
- pound-feet of torque; 10-speed automatic transmission
- How's the performance? Crazy fast on the road with a 0-60 mph time of 5.3 seconds; incredible offroad capability with new Torsen limited slip differential
- What about fuel economy? Not the high point here: PA-rated at 16 mph combined (15 city, 18 highway)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



38 accuse writer/director James Toback of sexual harassment

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Writer and director James Toback, who received an Oscar nomination for writing "Bugsy," has been accused of sexual harassment by 38 women in a report published Sunday in The Los Angeles Times.

In the report, many of the women allege that Toback approached them on the streets of New York City and promised stardom. His meetings would often end with sexual questions and Toback masturbating in front of them or dry-humping them, according to the accounts.

The 72-year-old denied the allegations to The Los Angeles Times, saying he never met any of the women, or if he had it "was for five minutes and (I) have no recollection."

Thirty-one of the women spoke on the record including Louise Post, who is a guitarist and vocalist for the band Veruca Salt, and "As the World Turns" actress Terri Conn.

Actress Echo Danon recalled an incident on the set of his film "Black and White"



where Toback put his hands on her and said that he would ejaculate if she looked at his eyes and pinched his nipples.

"Everyone wants to work, so they put up with it," Danon told the Times. "That's why I put up with it. Because I was hoping to get another job."

Loretta Lynn returns after stroke to honor Alan Jackson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Country star Alan Jackson, the late guitarist and singer Jerry Reed and songwriter Don Schlitz were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday.

Country icon Loretta Lynn returned to the Hall of Fame for the first time since she suffered a stroke in May to formally induct Jackson. Lynn, who cancelled her tour dates this year to recover, said Jackson was the only person that could make her leave her house.

She recalled meeting Jackson when he was a nervous young artist decades ago and knowing then that he would

"be one of the greatest singers in country music."

"He hadn't let me down," said Lynn, who is also a member of the Hall of Fame.

The 59-year-old Jackson is still one of country music's most successful solo artists, having sold nearly 45 million albums in the United States and had 26 singles reach the top of the Billboard country charts.

With his baritone voice and knack for telling stories about small town Southern life, the Newnan, Georgia-born singer was among a wave of neo-traditionalists that broke through in the 1990s.

On Sunday afternoon, Times reporter Glenn Whipp said the number of accusers had doubled since the story had published.

Toback hasn't responded to a request for comment from The Associated Press.

The report comes amid the ongoing downfall of producer Harvey Weinstein, who has been accused of sexual harassment and assault by over three dozen women. He was fired from the company he cofounded and widely denounced by his Hollywood peers.

"James Toback damn you for stealing, damn you for traumatizing," tweeted Weinstein accuser Rose McGowan on Sunday.

Another Weinstein accuser, actress-director Asia Argento, tweeted, "So proud of my sisters for bringing down yet another pig" in response to the Toback report.

Though less widely known than Weinstein, Toback has had a successful four-decade career in Hollywood and has a devoted following who have praised him for his originality In this Thursday, July 25, 2013, file photo, James Toback takes part in a panel discussion during HBO's Summer 2013 TCA panel at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

and outsized, deeply flawed characters.

A New York native, Harvard graduate, creative writing professor and compulsive gambler, Toback used his own life as inspiration for his first produced screenplay, "The Gambler," which came out in 1974 and starred James Caan. The film was remade in 2014 with Mark Walhberg and Brie Larson.

He also wrote and directed the Harvey Keitel film "Fingers," the loosely autobiographical "The Pick-up Artist," which starred Robert Downey Jr. and Molly Ringwald, "Two Girls and a Guy," also with Downey Jr. and Heather Graham, "Harvard Man," with Sarah Michelle Gellar, and the Mike Tyson documentary "Tyson."

His one and only Oscar nomination is for writing the Barry Levinson-directed and Warren Beatty-starring "Bugsy."

Toback's upcoming film, "The Private Life of a Modern Woman," stars Sienna Miller and Alec Baldwin and debuted at the Venice Film Festival

earlier this year.

Like Weinstein, reports of Toback's alleged behavior toward women have been around for decades. Spy magazine wrote about him in 1989, and the now-defunct website Gawker also published accounts from women in New York who had had runins with Toback.

But in the past few weeks, amid the Weinstein scandal and the rise of the #MeToo social media movement, in which women are revealing instances of sexual harassment and assault, more reports have emerged about the conduct of many working in the entertainment industry.

Just days ago, top Amazon Studios executive Roy Price resigned following sexual harassment allegations made by a "Man in the High Castle" producer.

On Sunday, a few in Hollywood began denouncing Toback on social media, including "Bridesmaids" director Paul Feig, who tweeted that Toback "Is a disgrace."

"One of the main jobs of a director is to create a safe environment for the actors," Feig wrote.

"Doctor Strange" director Scott Derrickson added, "If there is a Hell, James Toback will be in it."

Justin Timberlake invited back to Super Bowl halftime show

Justin Timberlake has finally been invited back to the Super Bowl halftime show, 14 years after the "wardrobe malfunction" with Janet Jackson caused a national controversy.

The NFL announced Sunday night that Timberlake will headline the Super Bowl halftime show Feb. 4 in Minnesota.

This will be Timberlake's third Super Bowl halftime

performance, the most for any entertainer. Timberlake performed at the 2001 Super Bowl with N'Sync, and he sang "Rock Your Body" with Jackson in 2004 in Houston. That performance concluded with Timberlake ripping her costume to reveal her right breast bare except for a nipple shield.

During an interview broadcast at halftime of NBC's "Sunday Night Football," Timberlake laughed off questions about a repeat of the infamous moment, which drew CBS a \$550,000 fine from the Federal Communications Commission that was later overturned.

"That won't happen this time," he said.

Timberlake has won 10 Grammys, and the Tennessee native also has won four Em-

mys. He said the best Super Bowl performances have spoken to the mood of the nation.

"What I really want to do is take the opportunity to put together a performance that feels like it unifies," Timberlake said. "I feel like that would be the ultimate accomplishment, and then the icing on the cake is at some point within that 12 minutes that everybody is shaking their booty." (AP)

Teen rebelling through apathy is challenge for dad to reach

EAR ABBY: I am a divorced and remarried man with two teenage daughters. My ex-wife has custody of my girls one state away. I see them as often as time and the courts allow—two months during the summer, a week during winter break, rotating Thanksgivings, etc.

Both of my daughters are failing miserably in school, but I am most concerned about my younger daughter. She is 13 and is rebelling badly. I recently spoke with the principal at her school and was told she puts forth zero effort. She arrives at school unclean, and fellow students have complained about the way she smells.

She blames her actions on my absence. This devastates me. I have always tried my best to make her understand that she was not any part of the reason her mother and I divorced. I try to call her often.

My biggest problem is I'm not good at casual conversation and idle chitchat. Generally when we talk, we end up sitting in silence until one of us says, "Well, I gotta go." My question is, how do I get better at talking to my baby girl so I can let her know how important she is to me?

"GOTTA GO" IN FLORIDA

DEAR GOTTA GO: Living one state away, you can't force your child to shower and make sure she is clean and

dressed in fresh clothes before she goes to school -- but her mother can and should. Shame on her for allowing it, because the girl will become a social pariah, if it hasn't happened already. If her poor grades and hygiene are caused by depression, she should be seeing a counselor.

Those phone calls might become easier if you take a few minutes and make a list of topics you think she's interested in, as well as questions to draw her out, before picking up the phone. Ask her what she THINKS about something or how she FEELS about things rather than yes or no questions. Tell her you are thinking about her and that you love her every time you call, because that's really the most important message you are trying to convey, and the one she needs the most to hear.

DEAR ABBY: I am a first-time uncle of a 4-month-old nephew. My brother and sister-in-law are extremely close with my wife and me. We see them three or four times a week, and we are very fond of our nephew. I love being an uncle, and my wife loves being an aunt.

My sister-in-law grew up calling all her parents' friends "Aunt Sally," "Aunt Jenna" and so on. Naturally, she plans to have my nephew call her friends "aunt" and "uncle" as well. I feel that being an aunt or uncle is much more than just a title. We are family; we are blood. I'm a bit put off when I hear my

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



sister-in-law say, "Here's Uncle John," when they see "John" only a couple of times a year. He's not an uncle to my nephew! Should I be offended, or is it just a title like saying "Mr."?

REAL UNCLE IN MARYLAND

DEAR REAL UNCLE: Simmer down. Your SIL is using the term as an honorary title. As you stated, she does this because it's the way she was raised. In no way does it diminish either your emotional or blood tie with your nephew.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

22 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield_®

By Jim Davis















Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



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By Eugene Sheffer **CROSSWORD**

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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch STUMPED? tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King.

Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kyla Ross, 21; Shenae Grimes, 28; B.D. Wong, 57; Kevin Kline, 70.

Happy Birthday: Dig in and stretch to reach your creative initiatives. Let your imagination take you to places that will motivate and stimulate you mentally, physically and emotionally. Turn this year into one of enlightenment, creativity and discovery. Be an adventurer and others will respect and admire your persistence and altruism. Make each day count and aspire to reach your goals. Your numbers are 1, 12, 23, 24, 30, 42, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A change will do you good. Planning a vacation, signing up for a course or buying season tickets to a favorite event will give you something to look forward to. Physical improvements will lift your spirits. Exercise is encouraged. �����

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll have to bend a little if you want to avoid being left out. It's OK to be different or to only participate in what interests you, but don't offend people who are being hospitable. Show respect even if you don't agree. OOO

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Deal with legal, financial and institutional matters. Bring about the necessary changes or requirements to stabilize your life. Settlements can be put to rest and peace of mind will be reason enough

to celebrate. Romance is highlighted. OOO CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take care of business, whether it has to do with home and family or work and colleagues. Listen carefully and offer solid suggestions in order to reach your intended goal. Don't let personal issues stop you from getting things done. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Avoid getting

into intellectual debates with loved ones or your peers. Argumentative situations will lead to regret if you are opinionated. Instead, concentrate on personal growth and physical improvements that will help build your confidence and courage to do your own thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Problems with older family members or the responsibilities you've accumulated will surface. Refuse to let emotions take over. If you want to even things out or share the demands being put on you, offer incentives and lay down some rules. 🛇

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Walk away from bullies or those trying to pressure you into something you don't want to do. Channel your energy into personal gains and improvements that will help to stabilize your life. Learning, travel and relationships are featured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take on new and exciting projects or go to places that spark your interest or make you think. Expand your mind and explore what life has to offer. It's up to you to make things happen. Stop waffling and start achieving.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Express the way you feel and make a commitment to follow through with the endeavors that mean the most to you. Don't lose sight of what's important and what you can do to help those less fortunate than you.

EUGENIA THE LAST WORD

IN ASTROLOGY



COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be

put your mind at ease and help you avoid interference from anyone who is critical or competitive. Take better care of your health. 🛇 😂 AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can make a difference if you pitch in. Don't get overwhelmed or feel pressured by

secretive about your plans. Making sure

everything is in order and fail proof will

what others ask for or the choices they make. You'll gain the most by doing your part and not complaining. Romance is highlighted. •••• PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll

crave change, but unless you have something concrete in mind, it will be best to sit tight and wait. Holding out for what you want will be worth it. For now, preparation should be your top priority. OO

Birthday Baby: You are curious, aggressive and changeable. You are understanding and compas-

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

10/24

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Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

	Yesterday's Answer									
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Wonderword OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY; All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ENGLISH IS FULL OF DIPHTHONGS Solution: 7 letter MESYMBOLS LEWOVI MANICURESUOHAIR R E T N E C Y M B A L \$ N B E SRPAWCOALAROLOT IUSELPUOCOIN (M) AA AOFARFHIEGÔIR SWNUPLAWYE LEDOGSGIBDERIAP EENRTECNOJOINEE URHNSUORHISBS M S OIOAUDBDKTCPRDO NCSNRLLABREVAEU EEOOEDUOLAEOIIP HRWDIPARKPPONLS P P T O N E S B R I S I N G E

© 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndical on III www.wonderword.com Bear Boat Book Broad Center Close Coal Coin Couples Bear, Boat, Book, Broad, Center, Close, Coal, Coin, Couples, Cymbals, Double, Hair, House, Join, Lawyer, Length, Lied, Loud, Manicure, Narrow, Oral, Owl, Paired, Palatal, Pause, Period, Phenome, Precise, Pronunciation, Pure, Rain, Rapid, Rising, Semivowel, Separate, Single, Soup, Speak, Speech, Symbols, Together, Tones, Tongue, Two Sounds, Verbal, Wear, Words Yesterday's Answer: Not Redeemable

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 51, order on the at www.WoncerWordBooks.com.



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/CGC-002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2017 TIME: 9:00AM

<u> CHCC SOUTHERN CLINIC REPAIR, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE</u> CENTER, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION" MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2017 AT

9:00AM, ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND TO VIEW THE SPACE AND MAY TAKE MEASUREMENTS AND/OR ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED -UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL

SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S



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JVA#17-013: Marketing Manager Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#17-014: Trades Technician I Location: Marianas Visitors Authority. Rota

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 or visit www.mymarianas.com for more details.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-18-001 Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arms PL-UNGRADED: \$ 816.12 B/W Opening Date: October 10, 2017 \$ 21,219.07 Annual Closing Date: October 31, 2017

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan General Duties:

- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled
- and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings; Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by
- the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority; Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security
- during the interim-Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the
- maintenance of the chamber; Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned

Qualifications and Requirements

- Must have completed a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo
- and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and Must undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

WHATZIT Solution: A night on the tiles

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS		СОМВО
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• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section



Astros go from woeful to World Series in just 4 years

HOUSTON (AP)—Just four years ago, the Houston Astros weren't just bad, they were embarrassing -- so embarrassing that many dubbed them the "Lastros."

Now Houston is heading to its second World Series in franchise history after beating the Yankees in the AL Championship Series, and its time as the league's laughingstock seems like a distant memory.

"You always picture yourself in the World Series, but to be here after my debut in 2012 with the team that we had, with the players that we had, I never thought we would be here," left-hander Dallas Keuchel said.

Keuchel is one of just four Astros who remain from a 2013 team that hit rock bottom by losing a franchise-record 111 games in its first year in the AL. Houston became the first team since Kansas City from 2004-06 to lose 100 games in three straight seasons. Those bumbling Astros, who had the league's lowest payroll as the franchise shed its veterans to rebuild, often played in front of fewer than 10.000 fans and routinely faced boos from the few people who did show up.

All-Star second baseman Jose Altuve, super-utility man Marwin Gonzalez and right-hander Brad Peacock are the other holdovers from the lean times.

"When I got here, no one talked about winning," said manager A.J. Hinch, who took over in 2015. "And that was one of the first things that Altuve told me in my office, that he wanted to win. And that represented what the next step was for this organization. And obviously in 2015 we got to taste it a little bit, 2016 we had some disappointment, 2017 we're going to the World

An example of just how terrible that 2013 team was came on the night they dropped their



100th game. The 10-0 defeat ing to stretch it into a double. by the Cincinnati Reds featured numerous lowlights

from the "Lastros." The first came when starter Jordan Lyles badly overthrew first base for a two-base error. In the bottom of the first inning, Jonathan Villar singled, but was thrown out trySimply being thrown out for a

baserunning error was pretty routine on this terrible team, but the way Villar was thrown out was so humiliating that it went viral and even made it on NBC's "Today" show the next morning. Villar slid into second base,

The Astros began to slowly improve in 2014 and ended their 100-loss streak by going

"butt tag."

had the ball before he began

the slide. The always flamboy-

ant Phillips reached backward

between his legs to apply the

tag as Villar crashed head-first

into Phillips' backside, a mo-

ment many still refer to as the

Houston Astros' Lance Mc-Cullers Jr. leaps in the arms on Brian McCann after Game 7 of baseball's American League Championship Series against the New York Yankees Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017, in Houston.

70-92 in the last season under manager Bo Porter. Houston surprised most everyone when the team went 86-76 in 2015 in the first year under Hinch to reach the postseason for the first time since 2005. Those upstart Astros were led Keuchel's Cy Young Award-winning season and a stellar debut by 2012 top pick Carlos Correa, which earned him rookie of the year honors. That team downed the Yankees in the AL Wild Card game before losing to eventual champion Kansas City in the Division Series.

Expectations were high entering the 2016 season, but a 7-17 start, numerous injuries and a tough year by Keuchel left them just short of reaching the playoffs and determined to bounce back this year.

They did just that, opening this season 36-16 to race out to such big lead in the AL West that no one had a chance of catching them. They fin-

ished with 101 wins and their first division title since 2001 to return to the postseason. Though the Astros added plenty of pieces in the last four seasons as they moved from baseball's basement to the top of the heap, the four players who endured that disastrous 2013 season have all played important roles in this year's success.

Gonzalez had his finest season, hitting .303 with 23 homers and 90 RBI-all career highs-and becoming an everyday player after filling the utility role for years. Keuchel went 14-5 with a 2.90 ERA to rebound after going 9-12 with a 4.55 ERA in the follow-up to his Cy Young season. Peacock was perhaps the biggest surprise of the group, winning a career-best 13 games and finishing with a 3.00 ERA to steady the rotation when injuries piled up midseason.

However, none of their contributions come close to what Altuve did for the team in the regular season and continued to provide as the calendar turned to October. And he may appreciate this more than anybody after playing on those "Lastros" teams.

Kershaw vs Keuchel in Game 1

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles Dodgers love their analytics, collecting so much data that manager Dave Roberts proudly proclaims: "I don't see any team that's more

All the numbers, video and advanced scouting reports are great. But firsthand looks are nice, too.

prepared than we are."

So Curtis Granderson, what do you know about your World Series opponent, the Houston Astros?

"I saw them a couple times in spring training, when I was with the Mets," the outfielder said.

OK, then.

Funny, in a way. The Astros and Dodgers have played more than 700 times over the years, but these clubs know very little about each other.

"A lot of it is going to be learning as you go," Granderson said.

Los Angeles ace Clayton Kershaw is set to pitch Game 1 on Tuesday night against Dallas Keuchel at Dodger Stadium. Rich Hill will start Game 2 for the Dodgers vs. AL Championship Series MVP Justin Verlander.

Yu Darvish will start Game 3 for the Dodgers when the Series shifts to Houston on Friday night. Acquired from Texas on July 31, he's the most familiar with the Astros.

Darvish is 5-5 in 14 career starts against them, including 1-1 this season.

Keuchel has never faced the Dodgers. Verlander beat Los Angeles on Aug. 20 with eight dominant innings, shortly before he got traded from Detroit.

"It's hard to dismiss the two guys at the top of the rotation," Roberts said, also praising Houston's "athleticism" and "ability to slug."

The Astros showed off all facets Saturday night, beating the New York Yankees 4-0 in Game 7 of the ALCS.

The Dodgers haven't played the Astros since 2015, when they dropped a threegame series at Houston. The previous time they met was 2012, back when Houston was still in the National League and stuck in the midst of three straight 100loss seasons.

Boosted by Jose Altuve and Carlos Correa, the Astros are now among the elite teams in the majors.

Hill also knows how quickly things can turn around. Wearing a hat that had a World Series emblem on the side, the 37-year-old reflected on where he was fairly recently.

In 2015, beset by injuries, no team in the big leagues wanted him and he wound up pitching for the Long Island Ducks.

"A couple years ago, I was using a bucket in independent ball as a toilet," he said.

Mets tab Indians coach Callaway as manager



NEW YORK (AP)—Looking for a fresh

voice to shepherd their prized arms, the Mets found it in new manager Mickey Callaway.

New York agreed to a threeyear contract Sunday with the Cleveland Indians pitching coach, according to a person familiar with the decision. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made.

A news conference to introduce Callaway as Terry Collins' replacement is expected within the next few days.

With his contract set to expire, Collins stepped down at the end of the season after seven years as Mets manager

and accepted a position as a special assistant to general manager Sandy Alderson.

The 42-year-old Callaway, who has never managed at any professional level, has done an excellent job as Cleveland's pitching coach for the past five seasons under highly successful skipper Terry Francona. Led by ace Corey Kluber, the Indians led the major leagues with a 3.30 ERA and 1,614 strikeouts this season—one year after reaching the World Series and losing to the Chicago Cubs in seven games.

"The first thing that I noticed when the season started our first year was his level of confidence," Francona said this month. "It seemed to me that it exceeded his experience. Then, as you watch him and you're with him every day, you see that that confidence allowed him to have other voices, and get input from other people, and sift through that and take what he wanted. But my goodness, he had such an impact on the pitching staff. He's so good."

This season, Cleveland won an AL-best 102 games and its second consecutive AL Central title. But the Indians squandered a 2-0 lead in the Division Series and were eliminated by the New York Yankees in five games.

Other candidates for the job were Mets hitting coach Kevin Long, Mariners third base coach Manny Acta and White Sox

bench coach Joe McEwing. The team also interviewed Houston bench coach Alex Cora, according to reports. Cora was hired Sunday as manager of the Boston Red Sox.

Long's contract with the Mets is about to expire but the team would like to keep him on the staff.

New York was thought to be looking for a manager wellversed in modern analytics, and Callaway fits that bill after coaching in a progressive Indians organization that has developed a winning team with a modest payroll. He also was considered a top contender for the manager opening with the NL East rival Philadelphia Phillies.

Super Mismatch: Pats continue mastery of Falcons



OUGH, Mass. (A P — T o m Brady threw two touchdown passes and the New

England Patriots toyed with the Atlanta Falcons-sound familiar?—23-7 in a fogfilled Super Bowl rematch Sunday night that wasn't particularly super.

New England scored the final 31 points to win the NFL championship in February. Placards and shirts reading 28-3 were ever-present in and around Gillette Stadium as the Patriots (5-2) scored the first 23 points in this prime-time mismatch. The Falcons (3-3), who led New England by that 25-point margin in the third quarter of the Super Bowl before folding, were outplayed throughout this one.

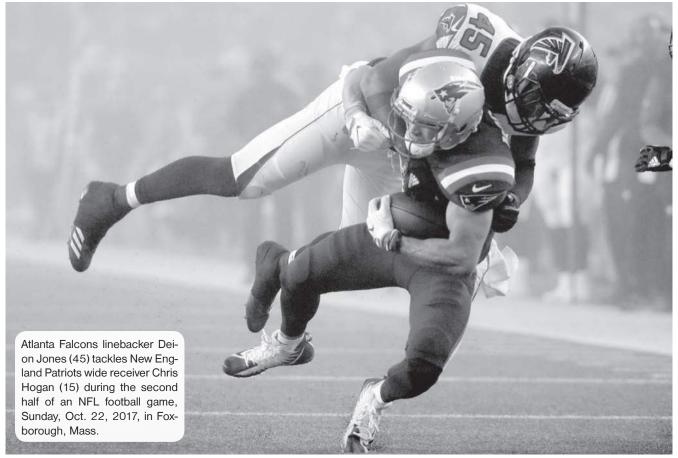
While Atlanta looked tentative, if not intimidated, Brady and his offense clinically tore apart the Falcons. Mixing runs and passes, New England controlled the clock and field position. And its defense, ranked at the bottom of the entire league through six weeks, stymied the NFL's fifth-ranked offense.

Brady threw a shovel pass to Bradin Cooks that traveled perhaps a foot, and the receiver used his speed to get into the left corner of the end zone. The other TD was a 2-yarder to James White, who had three touchdowns, including the winner, in the Super Bowl.

Steelers 29, Bengals 14

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger threw for 224 yards and two touchdowns, Le'Veon Bell added 192 total yards, and Pittsburgh's defense dominated Cincinnati in the second half.

The Steelers (5-2) relied on their stars to take the lead, then on their reinvigorated defense to blunt Cincinnati and give



themselves a significant cushion over the rest of the underwhelming AFC North.

Cowboys 40, 49ers 10

In Santa Clara, Ezekiel Elliott gained 219 vards from scrimmage and tied a career high with three touchdowns just days after a legal reprieve put his suspension on hold.

Elliott was granted his second temporary restraining order on Tuesday, putting his six-game suspension over domestic violence allegations on hold, and then gave the Cowboys (3-3) a big boost on the field.

Chargers 21, Broncos O

In Carson, Travis Benjamin returned a first-quarter punt 65 yards for a touchdown and caught a 42-yard TD pass in the fourth, and the Chargers played a dominant defensive game in the first home victory of their relocation season.

Joey Bosa had two of the Chargers' five sacks while they sent the Broncos (3-3) to the franchise's first shutout defeat since a 24-0 loss to the Los Angeles Raiders on Nov. 22, 1992.

Seahawks 24, Giants 7

In East Rutherford, Russell Wilson threw three secondhalf touchdown passes and the Seahawks limited the New York Giants' receiver-depleted offense to 177 yards.

Wilson hit Doug Baldwin with a go-ahead 22-yard touchdown pass midway through the third quarter. He put the game away with a 38yard TD throw to Paul Richardson on a play that had to be reviewed because of simultaneous possession.

Titans 12, Browns 9, OT

In Cleveland, Ryan Succop's fourth field goal, a 47-yarder with 1:55 left in overtime, extended his NFL record for makes inside 50 yards to 55 straight and sent the Tennessee Titans to an ugly 12-9 win on Sunday over the winless Cleveland Browns.

Cleveland (0-7) lost durable Pro Bowl tackle Joe Thomas with an injury. A 10-time Pro Bowler, he missed his first play in 11 seasons. Thomas went out with a triceps injury that snapped his streak of 10,363 consecutive offensive plays.

Rams 33, Cardinals O

In London, Jared Goff ran for a touchdown and threw for another and Greg Zuerlein made four field goals as the Rams won for the first time in three appearances in Britain.

Arizona (3-4) heads home with significant questions after quarterback Carson Palmer injured his left arm in the second quarter and did not return.

Saints 26, Packers 17 In Green Bay, Drew Brees threw for a touchdown and ran for another and Mark Ingram rushed for a score.

Will Lutz kicked two second-half field goals, including a 44-yarder to put New Orleans up for good 19-17 with 10:26 left in the game. Brees' 1-yard sneak gave the Saints a two-score lead

Bills 30, Buccaneers 27

In Orchard Park, rookie cornerback Tre'Davious White forced and recovered a fumble to set up Stephen Hauschka's 30-yard field goal with 14 seconds remaining.

LeSean McCoy had 91 yards rushing and scored twice, including a 7-yard run to tie the score with 2:28 remaining. Tyrod Taylor went 20 of 33 for 268 yards and a touchdown, while Buffalo's defense forced three turnovers.

Dolphins 31, Jets 28

In Miami Gardens, Matt

Moore replaced an injured Jay Cutler and threw two touchdown passes in the final 12 minutes, and the Dolphins pulled off another comeback win by erasing a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit.

Josh McCown threw three touchdown passes and ran for another for the Jets, but his interception in the final minute set up the winning field goal.

Bears 17, Panthers 3

In Chicago, rookie safety Eddie Jackson became the first NFL player to score multiple defensive touchdowns of 75 yards or more in a game. Jackson ran back a fumble recovery 75 yards on the game's opening possession and returned an interception of Cam Newton 76 yards for a score early in the second quarter to give Chicago a 14-0 lead.

He became the first Bears player since Fred Evans in 1948—and the first NFL player since Tennessee's Zach Brown in 2012—with two defensive TDs in a game.

Vikings 24, Ravens 16

In Minneapolis, Latavius Murray rushed for 113 yards and a touchdown and Kai Forbath kicked six field goals.

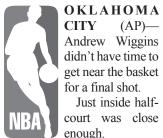
Forbath made kicks of 52, 51, 43, 43, 34 and 32 yards to back another suffocating effort from the defense for the Vikings (5-2). Minnesota sacked Joe Flacco five times and allowed just 208 yards. Everson Griffen had two sacks and has nine for the season.

Jaguars 27, Colts O

In Indianapolis, Blake Bortles threw for a season-high 330 yards and one touchdown, and T.J. Yeldon scored on a 58-yard run. By ending a fourgame losing streak at Lucas Oil Stadium, the Jaguars (4-3) remained atop the AFC South.

Indy (2-5) lost its second straight, both to division foes.

Wiggins' heave banks in, leads T-Wolves past Thunder



OKLAHOMA (AP)— Andrew Wiggins

get near the basket

for a final shot. Just inside halfcourt was close enough.

Wiggins' desperation heave banked in as time expired to give the Minnesota Timberwolves a 115-113 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday night.

"I could see how much time was left," Wiggins said. "I got as close as I could and let it go."

Carmelo Anthony had hit a 3-pointer with about five seconds left to give the Thunder the lead. The Timberwolves look for the guy running the and Towns had 27 points were out of timeouts, so they had to scramble. Taj Gibson inbounded to Wiggins, who free with help from a crushing pick by Karl-Anthony Towns before pulling up for the winner.

"Everything worked perfectly," Wiggins said. "Taj found me. KAT had a great screen. When it left my hands, the release felt amazing."

Gibson said the Timberwolves practice those kinds of plays regularly.

"We practice it six times in practice every day," Gibson said. "Once I got the ball, my job is to take the ball out, be patient, look for the open man,

baseline. I was trying to get Jeff (Teague), but Wig was wide open. KAT did what he rushed up the court and got was supposed to do, backscreen, and the rest is history."

Thunder forward Paul George got knocked down on Towns' screen, and it freed up Wiggins.

"I did see Paul go down, but I didn't have a great look to see how he went down and why," Thunder coach Billy Donovan said. "If it was an illegal screen, the officials will deal with that stuff. For me it's about focusing on our team and what we have to do and what we could have done differently."

Wiggins scored 27 points

and 12 rebounds for Minnesota (2-1).

Russell Westbrook scored 15 of his 31 points in the fourth quarter for the Thunder (1-2), who were coming off a loss at Utah on Saturday night. Anthony scored 23 points and Steven Adams had 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Pelicans 119, Lakers 112

In Los Angeles, the New Orleans Pelicans were watching another doubledigit lead evaporate, with the Los Angeles Lakers using a furious 27-4 run to take a five-point lead.

This time, the Pelicans were ready for the challenge.

They answered with an 11-0 run of their own to beat the Lakers on Sunday night for their first victory of the season.

"We have to stop letting off the gas when we have big leads," said New Orleans center DeMarcus Cousins.

This is something we've done the previous two games and we're trying to stop it on the fly."

The Pelicans (1-2) were able to ward off the challenge from the Lakers (1-2) behind 27 points and 17 rebounds from Anthony Davis, and 22 points and 11 rebounds from Cousins.

Nets 116, Hawks 104

In New York, the Brooklyn Nets thought their rebuilding phase was right on track when

they signed Allen Crabbe to an offer sheet in the summer of 2016, only to see Portland step in and match it.

After finally being able to acquire him in a trade with the Trail Blazers in July, Nets coach Kenny Atkinson is starting to see some of the intangibles that Crabbe's brings.

The gamble, although delayed by a year, might have been worth it.

Crabbe, who has been on a minutes restriction because of preseason injuries, came up big Sunday, scoring 20 points—10 in the fourth quarter—to help the Nets beat the Atlanta Hawks.

Crabbe had started the second game of the season Friday night with Jeremy Lin out for the season with a knee injury.

Familiar faces crowd MTB race

jon_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Familiar faces in the cycling community crowded the podium in

the mountain bike division of last Saturday's Pacific Islands Club-Saipan Bike For Life.

Mark Isip led the Top 3 men's winners, while Glorybel Tan duplicated the feat in the women's division. They were the two fastest in the 50-kilometer MTB race that started and ended at PIC's south parking lot with a turnaround point at Banzai Cliff.

Isip clocked in at 1:23:27.09 in another mad dash to the finish line to beat Noe Valdisimo by 53 tenths of a second, as the latter registered 1:23:27.62. Ferdinand Ramos came in at third with his 1:23:46.12.

Tan, meanwhile, crossed the finish line in 1:38:23 for a full two-minute lead over closest pursuer Beth Kohnen, who timed 1:40:56.81. Heather Brook was the third best female MTB rider, finishing the course in 1:48:49.78.

Isip and Tan, along with youngsters and road bike winners Jerome Diyco and J.C. Ferrer, received free entries to

this year's Hell of the Marianas set in December. They also got gift certificates at Seaside Grill, PIC waterpark passes for two, and a case of Pepsi.

J.C. Libut and Nap Dizon came in second and third behind Diyco in the men's road bike, while Zairya Marfega and Kimiko McKagan joined Ferrer at the podium in the women's side.

The runners-up received Sunday brunch certificates at Magellan's, waterpark passes for two, and a case of Pepsi, while the third placers went home with lunch certificates at Magellan's, waterpark passes

for two, and a case of Pepsi.

The Bike For Life was a fundraising event and proceeds from the weekend race will go to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. It was also the second bike race under the HOM Century Cycle Race Series after last month's Bike and Run For Cure. The final race in the series is the DFS Bike for Her on Oct. 28.

PIC Sports & Events manager Keoni Ichihara thanked everyone who joined the race and the event's sponsors—Pacific Trading Co., Bridge Capital, HOM, the Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation, and PIC—for their support.



Pacific Islands Club's Bike For Life women's MTB champ Glorybel Tan, second left, and third placer Heather Brook, center, join race organizers for a photo-op after the awarding ceremony.

SPIGEN

From Page 28

scoreless during the team's fourth-quarter meltdown.

Meanwhile, Fitial and Fernando also joined forces in powering the Silencer past Ridhors last Saturday.

Fitial sizzled for 28 points, while Fernando contributed 20 to hand Ridhors its first loss in six games.

After a close first quarter, which saw the Silencer holding a 24-20 advantage, the eventual leading team started asserting its might over Ridhors in the ensuing periods to widen the gap by the end of the third, 69-52.

It was cruise control for the Silencer from thereon, as Ridhors struggled a bit offensively. Ken Viray, who averaged 32.5 points in Rid-

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Toronto

Detroit

Indiana

Chicago

Milwaukee

0

to 15.

Saturday Game

Silencer 94—Fitial 28, Fernando 20, Mico Usi 11, Perez 10, Estores 10, Patrick Morales 9, Culala 7, Arreza 4.

hors' last two wins, was held

Ridhors 77—Guiab 18, Morales 16, Viray 15, Surima 15, Dayrit 6, De Jesus 5, Claveria 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-23, 46-38, 69-52, 94-77.

Sunday Game

Silencer 78— Fernando 25, Fitial 16, Morales 12, Usi 8, Estores 6, Perez 4, Culala 4, Sevilla 2.

Spigen 77 — Pagarao 21, Tobias 20, Berline 13, Cortes 8, Umali 7, Marilla 4, Flores 2, Tibayan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-20, 34-39, 52-60, 78-77.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

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Southwest Division

Northwest Division



Men's MTB Top 3 finishers, Mark Isip, third left, Noe Valdisimo, second left, and Ding Ramos, third right, pose with organizers of the 2017 PIC Bike For Life.

TEEN

From Page 28

With its three goals, the Teen Ayuyus now have a total of seven—the most by a team so far early in the fall season.

TanHoldings is at second in the most goals scored with six after getting one apiece from Sean Perez and Joshua De Leon in their victory over Paire. Perez averted a Tan-Holdings shutout in the first half when he found the back

of the net in the final minute of that period. The winning team's second goal also came in late with De Leon hitting his target in the 84th minute.

Meanwhile, Kanoa and Matansa cruised to victories in the two other games played last Sunday.

Matansa clobbered the Women's National Team, 10-0, in their Division B duel at the Koblerville Elementary School Field to move up to a 2-0-0 record for the lead in their group.

Kamrul Kamrul led Matansa's easy win with his hattrick, while Amzad Khan and Young Ha Hwang chipped in two each.

Back at the Hopwood pitch, Kanoa got a free victory (via forfeiture) against MP United, which did not have enough players for the curtain-raiser in Division A.

With the win, Kanoa is now at third place in the team standings with its 1-1-0 slate. ahead of Okadaya (1-0-2), MP

United (1-0-2), Paire (0-1-2), and Sun Palace (0-0-1).

Sun Palace hopes to regroup quickly when it takes on Okadaya in the first game at 12pm this Sunday, while TanHoldings will shoot for win No. 3 when it faces Kanoa in the second Division A tiff at 2pm. In the last game in the group, the Teen Ayuyus also aim to extend their streak when they duel Paire. In the lone Division B match at Koblerville, Matansa will again meet the

Brooklyn Boston New York Philadelphia **Southeast Division** Washington Orlando Charlotte Atlanta **Central Division** Cleveland

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NBA STANDINGS

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1.000 -

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.500

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Houston

Memphis

Dallas

Utah

Minnesota

Portland

Denver

Oklahoma City 1

L.A. Clippers 2

L.A. Lakers

Golden State

Sacramento

Pacific Division

San Antonio 2

New Orleans 1

NFL STANDINGS													
NFL STANDINGS AMERICAN CONFERENCE East East													
W	L	Τ	Pct	PF	PA		Philadelphia	5	1	0	.833	165	122
New England	5	2	0	.714	195	166	Washington	5 3 3		0	.600	117	113
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	119	101	Dallas	3	2	0	.500	165	142
Miami	4	2	0	.667	92	112	N.Y. Giants	1	6	Ō	.143	112	156
N.Y. Jets	3	4	0	.429	137	161							
							South						
South							New Orleans	4	2	0	.667	171	133
Jacksonville	4	3	0	.571	183	110	Carolina	4	3	0	.571	131	139
Tennessee	4	3	0	.571	158	173	Atlanta	3	3 4	0	.500	128	132
Houston	3	3 3 5	0	.500	177	147	Tampa Bay	2	4	0	.333	145	151
Indianapolis	2	5	0	.286	119	222	, ,						
							North						
North							Minnesota	5	2	0	.714	146	119
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	147	116	Green Bay	4	3	0	.571	164	161
Baltimore	3	4	0	.429	130	148	Detroit	5 4 3 3	3 3 4	0	.500	161	149
Cincinnati	2	4	0	.333	98	112	Chicago	3	4	0	.429	122	151
Cleveland	0	7	0	.000	103	169							
							West						
West							L.A. Rams	5	2	0	.714	212	138
Kansas City	5	2	0	.714	207	161	Seattle	4	2	0	.667	134	94
Denver	3	3	0	.500	108	118	Arizona	3	4	0	.429	119	191
L.A. Chargers	3	4	0	.429	137	131	San Francisco	0	7	0	.000	123	186
Oakland	3	4	0	.429	155	156							
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS													

MENDIOLA

From Page 28

was the person who could push me through workouts and his diet plans did wonders for me," Mendiola sald.

"I train to win and improve myself as a person. These have been my motivations. I've always been competitive and driven to reach my goals. I used to be a really fat and unhealthy kid back in high school so I decided to change my life once I started playing sports," he added.

He was into running track and marathon, cycling, and mixed martial arts before he got into bodybuilding through the help of Tomokane, who encouraged him to try the sport in September 2014.

"I was a track star. I ran track every day for three years. I also did three full marathons here on the island and two Hell of the Marianas. I also fought and trained in Trech Tech under Cuki Alvarez. Aaron told me to try out the physique category first. I was already training for a fight back then so I decided to try it since I was already in shape," the newly crowned champion added.

Mendiola placed third in the physique division in the Dee Clayton Classic in his first try and he had so much fun training and competing that he decided to concentrate more in bodybuilding.

"I decided to take lifting more seriously and step up

my game, and do bodybuilding in 2015."

Now, he's encouraging others, especially the youth, to keep an active and healthy lifestyle. And although 'health is wealth' may be an old saying, it is still relevant today.

"Bodybuilding may be a tough sport to be in, but it can also be really fun too. Lifting is just very addicting once you start seeing the results or once you feel yourself getting stronger throughout the months and years of hard work and dedication," said Mendiola. "So, I encourage everyone to join a gym. You don't have to work out two to three hours a day. All it takes is about 45 minutes to an hour of training and follow a strict diet plan. It will

change your life for sure."

Women's National Team.

Mendiola thanked all his supporters, especially family and friends, for helping him become successful in bodybuilding.

"Shout out to Dee for being a great sponsor and wonderful friend to me. To Derek, for always pushing me to become better and stronger every time I'm on stage. To Frank Cabrera of MAGAS for sponsoring me since day one of my career. All I can say is all the hard work that I put in will never go unseen. You could also follow me on my YouTube channel, @dondabuilder670. I usually make video logs of my journey in bodybuilding and fitness." Mendiola said.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017 27

2017 Club Lao Charity Golf Tournament

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Female golfers Seon Hee Kim, left, and Gabriela Karmel, third left, join Laolao Bay Golf & Resort president Chang Ho Kim, second left, and 2017 Club Lao Charity Golf Tournament director Franco Santos for a group photo during the event's awards ceremony at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort early this month.





From left, Feng Chung Jin, J.J. Atalig, Ryan Park, Dong Young Lee, Seung Woo Kang, and Young Woo Lee are the men's players who will also compete in next month's match play.



Seniors gross top qualifier Hyew Duck Jang, second left, joins his colleagues in winning free rounds of golf at Laolao Bay.

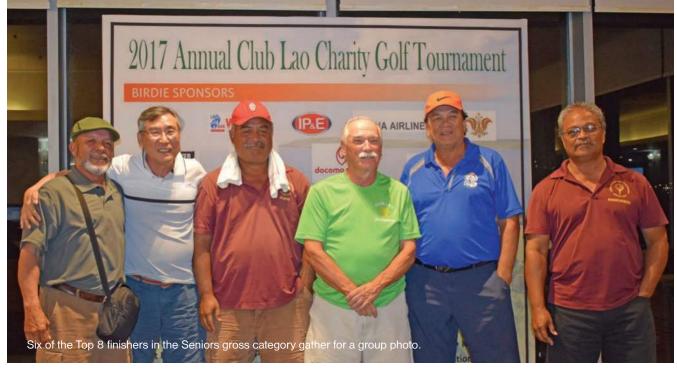


From left, William Retardo, Laolao Bay president Chang Ho Kim, Young Sook Kwon, and Alex Tudela, are all smiles after getting their awards.



Other participants in the 2017 Club Lao Charity Golf Tournament pose for a photo.





28 TUESDAY, OCTO

Saipan Tribune SOOTTS



Super Mismatch:
Pats continue
mastery of
Falcons

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mendiola wins first title

By JON PEREZ

non_perezesaipantribune.com

A

fter falling short in previous tournaments the last three years, Don Mendiola finally won his first championship.

Mendiola, who would either end up second or third in the past competitions he joined, was in Cloud 9 after taking his first overall title and middleweight crown in the bodybuilding event of the 2017 Dee Clayton Classic last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club-Saipan's Charley's Cabaret. He then hopes the win in last weekend's contest would spill over to his next competition.

"Every time I step on stage, I either won second or third place. I came in third in both the Michelob Ultra in Guam and the Ikaika Classic in Honolulu, Hawaii. This year was the first time I won an overall championship," Mendiola told *Saipan Tribune* after his morning workout at Latte Fitness Gym in San Jose yesterday.

Now, the 23-year-old personal trainer at Latte Fitness

JON PEREZ
Don Mendiola poses for the judges
during last Saturday's Dee Clayton
Classic at the Charley's Cabaret of
Pacific Islands Club-Saipan.

said he's setting his sights on another tournament in Hawaii—the Shawn Ray's Hawaiian Classic National Qualifier set on Nov. 4 at The Modern Honolulu.

Mendiola will be seeing action in next month's competition after hearing about the Shawn Ray Classic from Dee Clayton, Latte Built owner Derek Cutting, and fellow bodybuilders Aaron Tomokane and Gerald Galang. Both Tomokane and Galang joined last year's Shawn Ray Classic.

"I had fun competing in Hawaii [Ikaika Classic]. Now, I'm going back there on Nov. 1 for the Shawn Ray Classic. And I plan on taking home first place in my weight category," said Mendiola, who competes in the middleweight division.

Cutting has helped Mendiola since he arrived on Saipan in 2015. "[Derek] started training me back when I competed in the Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea. I knew for a fact that he

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ROSELYN B. MONR

The Silencer's Angelo Fernando, left, drives and draws a foul on Spigen's Lerio Pagarao during the third quarter of their game in the IT&E-sponsored Ali'i Blue Haus caging last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Streaking Silencer nips Spigen

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Silencer rolled to its seventh straight win after nosing out Spigen, 78-

77, during the first game in the 2nd Ali'i Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Angelo Fernando scored 14 points in the fourth quarter, including four clutch free throws to help Silencer steal the victory from Spigen. With the close win, the Silencer now has a 7-1 record to move on top of the team standings and dislodge erstwhile leader Tropang Ridhors, which the former also defeated last Saturday, 94-77.

Against Spigen, the Silencer, which dropped its opener (versus Green Minded) last month before making a run, nearly had its streak snapped when the former managed to lead by as much as 13 in the third quarter, 51-38.

A 12-3 run put

into the game, 50-54, thanks to the combined 10 points of Kelvin Fitial and Fernando. A triple from Isagani Cortes then gave Spigen more breathing room en route to an 8-point

Spigen more breathing room en route to an 8-point advantage at the end of the third period, 60-52.

However, Spigen eventually lost the driver's seat in the fourth canto as it failed to contain Fernan-

nowever, Spigen eventually lost the driver's seat in the fourth canto as it failed to contain Fernando. Beside the lefty wingman, the Silencer also got a lift from Mike Esteros, who scored 6 early points in the final frame before Fernando took over in the homestretch.

Fernando finished with a game-high 25 points, while Fitial chipped in 16. Lerio Pagarao paced Spigen with his 20 markers, but was

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Teen Ayuyus, TanHoldings share lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com



The Teen Ayuyus and TanHoldings are tied for the lead in Division

A of the M-League following their shutdown victories last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

The Teen Ayuyus, who are made up of players in the CNMI's U16 and U18 training pool, blanked newcomer Okadaya, 3-0, in the final match last weekend for their second win in as many matches. Also improving to a 2-0-0 win-draw-loss record was TanHoldings, which topped Paire Football Club, 2-0, in the second game last Sunday.

Sunjoon Tenorio knocked

in back-to-back goals for the Teen Ayuyus early in the second half to hand Okadaya its second loss in three games. Tenorio nailed his first goal just four minutes into the 45-minute half, while his second came in the 52nd minute.

Thaiphi Austria drew first blood for the Teen Ayuyus in the 12th minute.

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